E/1993/37
E/ECE/1284

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

ANNUAL REPORT

(16 April 1992 - 27 April 1993)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1993

SUPPLEMENT No. 17

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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

E/1993/37
E/ECE/1284

UNITED NATIONS PUBLICATION

ISSN 0251-0197

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Annual Report covering the period from 16 April 1992 to 27 April 1993

INTRODUCTION

1. The present Annual Report was adopted unanimously by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) at the ninth meeting of its forty-eighth session on 27 April 1993.

CHAPTER I

ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

2. In its decision A (48) the Commission, bearing in mind Assembly resolution 47/1, recommended to the Economic and Social Council "that it decide that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) shall not participate in the work of the UN Economic Commission for Europe as long as the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) shall not participate in the work of the United Nations General Assembly." (For the full text see Chapter IV)

3. In its decision N (48) (for the full text see Chapter IV) the Commission recommended the following draft decision to the Economic and Social Council:

AMENDMENTS TO THE ECE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the recommendation contained in decision N (48) adopted by the Economic Commission for Europe at its forty-eighth session,

1. Approves the amendments of Articles 3, 7, 9, and 10 of the Terms of Reference of the Economic Commission for Europe, as contained in decision N (48) of the Economic Commission for Europe,

2. Decides to modify accordingly the Terms of Reference of the Economic Commission for Europe.

4. The attention of the Council is drawn to Commission decision M (48) by which the Commission amended its Rules of Procedure. (For the full text see Chapter IV)

CHAPTER II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE ITS FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

5. A list of meetings held since the forty-seventh session is contained in Annex II, showing in each case the dates, the officers and the symbols of the report. These reports reflect the discussions held and record the agreements reached and decisions taken. The reports of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission contain also the programmes of work adopted by these bodies.

B. Other activities

6. Pursuant to the decisions of the Commission, the Executive Secretary submitted to the forty-eighth session a number of progress reports on projects carried out under the direct authority of the Commission itself. (See Annex III)

7. The secretariat serviced the regular session of the Commission, meetings of its subsidiary bodies, and other meetings held under its auspices. Periodic reviews, including the annual Economic Survey of Europe, the Economic Bulletin for Europe and a series of specialized statistical bulletins, were published. The secretariat maintained close and regular liaison with United Nations Headquarters and cooperated with the Departments concerned, as well as with the secretariats of the other regional commissions on projects of common interest.

C. Relations with other United Nations Programmes

8. The cooperation of the Commission and its secretariat in 1992/1993 with United Nations specialized agencies and other international organizations, as well as with their secretariats is described in document E/ECE/1278.

CHAPTER III

FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

9. The forty-eighth session of the Commission was held from 19 to 27 April 1993. The Commission heard statements by the Chairman, from the Secretary-General of the United Nations and by the Executive Secretary.

10. The forty-eighth session was attended by representatives from Albania, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern

Ireland, United States of America, and Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

11. The session was attended by representatives of the European Community (EC).

12. Representatives of the Holy See participated under article 8 of the Commission's terms of reference.

13. Egypt and Morocco were represented under article 11 of the Commission's terms of reference.

14. Representatives of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT), and the following specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations were in attendance: International Labour Organisation (ILO); Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); International Monetary Fund (IMF); International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

15. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: International Chamber of Commerce (ICC); International Cooperative Alliance (ICA); International Council on Social Welfare; International Council of Women (ICW); World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA); Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW); Conference of European Churches; International Council of Jewish Women (ICJW); International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC); International Federation of University Women (ICUW); National Council of German Women's Organizations; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF); World Assembly of Small and Medium Enterprises (WASME); World Federation of Methodist Women; La Leche League International (LLLI).

16. A complete list of participants can be found in document E/ECE/(48)/L.2 and Add.1.

17. The Chairman, on behalf of all delegations, expressed his condolences to the delegation of Turkey on the death of President Turgut Ozal.

18. The delegation of Denmark, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, stated that it did not accept the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) as the automatic successor of the former Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia. It took note of Assembly resolution 47/1 and the advice of the Legal Counsel of the United Nations on the applicability of the resolution. It regarded resolution 47/1 as a model for action in the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations in due course as appropriate. It did not accept that the representatives of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) might validly represent Yugoslavia at the present meeting and stated that their presence was without prejudice to any future action by the European Community and its member States.

19. The delegation of Turkey submitted a draft decision to the effect that the Commission decide that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) shall not participate in the work of the ECE.

20. Upon the proposal of the delegation of Denmark, on behalf of the European Community and its member States, supported by the delegation of the Russian Federation, the session was adjourned to allow the Chairman to consult delegations. On the basis of his consultations the Chairman submitted to the Commission a draft decision recommending to ECOSOC that it decide that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) shall not participate in the work of ECE as long as it shall not participate in the work of the United Nations General Assembly. In the absence of consensus he proposed that the draft decision be put to the vote.

21. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), citing the provisions of ECE Rule of Procedure 36, challenged the competence of the Commission to take such action. It also requested a legal opinion on the draft decision proposed by the Chairman. The Chairman cited the opinion received from the Office of Legal Affairs, namely that on basic issues of participation and rights of Members, ECOSOC subsidiary bodies may make recommendations to ECOSOC but it is ECOSOC as the parent organ which should decide such matters as appropriate. He went on to rule that ECE Rule of Procedure 36 was not applicable since the draft decision did not entail action by the Commission against a member but rather a recommendation to ECOSOC. He stated that the draft decision would have no direct or immediate effect upon the participation of the delegation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in the forty-eighth session of the Commission. Responsibility for appropriate action rested with ECOSOC. The Commission could not predict the decision to be taken by ECOSOC in this matter.

22. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) challenged the Chairman's ruling as being contrary to ECE rules of procedure and beyond the competence of the Commission. The Commission voted to uphold the Chairman's ruling by 34 votes to 3. One delegation stated it was not participating in the vote. One delegation which had voted against the ruling subsequently explained it had meant its vote to be in support of the ruling.

23. At its second meeting the Commission adopted, by 34 votes in favour, 2 against and 2 abstentions, its decision A (48) on the recommendation to ECOSOC for non-participation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in the work of the Economic Commission for Europe (for the text see Chapter IV).

24. The delegations of the Russian Federation, United Kingdom, Israel, United States, Slovenia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) took the floor to explain their vote.

25. The delegation of the Russian Federation explained that it had voted against that decision of the Commission on the grounds that it contradicted Assembly resolution 47/1, which had only suspended the participation of

representatives of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in the work of the General Assembly and its Committees and, secondly, that the decision was clearly against rule 36 of the ECE Rules of Procedure. The delegation stressed that it was not in the competence of the Commission to consider such political questions, and that this precedent could negatively affect the future work of the Commission.

26. The delegation of the United Kingdom stated that it had voted in favour of this decision and fully understood the importance of sending this political signal, particularly in the light of recent developments. Indeed it was unfortunate that this issue had had to be raised at all. The delegation concerned might have shown more sensitivity to the likely reaction of the Commission. It therefore had no difficulty from a political point of view in supporting the decision. It had to note for the record however that it had some doubts about the propriety of ECOSOC alone dealing with this issue, as the precise wording of the decision seemed to imply. In this context, it noted the advice from the Office of the UN Legal Counsel that ECOSOC as the parent organ should decide such matters "as appropriate". It drew particular attention to the last two words. It was its view that when ECOSOC deals with the issue of the participation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in the ECE it should do so in conjunction with those United Nations organs that deal with membership and related matters.

27. The delegation of Israel stated that the people of Israel condemned the atrocities which had occurred in the former Yugoslavia. Israel had supported resolution 47/1 in the Assembly relating only to the General Assembly and its constituent bodies. The ECE is a technical body of ECOSOC which is separate from the General Assembly. For this reason, and above all, in order to remain faithful to the principle of universality in the UN and its constituent bodies, Israel had abstained in the vote.

28. The delegation of the United States explained that it was able to vote in favour of this decision because in its view, Security Council resolution 777 and Assembly resolution 47/1 confirmed that the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia no longer existed and that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) should not be entitled to assume membership in the UN system of the former Yugoslavia.

29. The delegation of Slovenia had voted in favour of the decision that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) shall not participate in the work of the ECE because its Government deemed that Yugoslavia had ceased to exist. The international status of the new Federation of the Republics of Montenegro and Serbia was under present circumstances not clear. It was certainly not the automatic successor of the former Yugoslavia. The Constituent Republics of the former Yugoslavia that were in the past equal federal units could only be treated as equal successors. Consequently it had to reserve its position on the question of representation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) at the present session. It considered that any continued presence of the delegation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) at the session should not be understood as a recognition of the new State and of its right to automatic succession.

30. The representative of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) stressed that he voted against the decision of the forty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Europe primarily as the contents of the decision were contrary to the ECE rules of procedure, in particular rule 36, and because the Commission, in its discussion and by its adoption of this decision, violated its own rules of procedure. He also challenged the competence of the Commission to make this kind of recommendation. The representative had also voted against the decision because he was deeply convinced that its adoption represented a legal and political precedent, something that had been happening since the very outbreak of the Yugoslav crisis.

31. The Commission decided to pass to the Sessional Committee agenda item 5 - Work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies - for preliminary consideration.

32. The Sessional Committee met on 22 and 23 April 1993. The account of the consideration by the Sessional Committee of item 5 can be found in paragraphs 93-196 below. For the recommendations of the Sessional Committee to the Plenary and the action taken by the Commission on these recommendations, see paragraphs 197-204 below.

B. Agenda

33. The Commission adopted its agenda (E/ECE/1271 and Add.1) which read as follows:

1.	Adoption of the Agenda	
2.	Changing situation in the ECE region: review of economic reforms and major developments	
3.	Commission's activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy	E/ECE/1272
4.	Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Helsinki Document 1992	E/ECE/1273
5.	The work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies:	E/ECE/1274 E/ECE/1275 E/ECE/1276 E/ECE/1282 E/ECE/1283

(a)	review of ECE activities since the forty-seventh session and implementation of decision O (45) and decisions of the forty-seventh session	1/
(b)	ECE programme of work for 1993-1997 - the future work of the Commission; coordination of, and guidelines for, the activities of its subsidiary bodies	E/ECE/1277 and Add.1
(c)	cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions	E/ECE/1278
(d)	resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, including international cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear plant	E/ECE/1279 E/ECE/1281
(e)	Commission's contribution to the United Nations global programmes and to the Organization's programmes designed to assist developing countries of other regions	E/ECE/1280

6. Other business

7. Election of Officers

8. Annual Report of the Commission

1/ Other documentation for this sub-item:

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems	ECE/ENVWA/29
Inland Transport Committee	ECE/TRANS/97 and Add.1
Conference of European Statisticians	ECE/CES/40
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	ECE/EC.AD/40
Committee on Energy	ECE/ENERGY/21
Committee on the Development of Trade	ECE/TRADE/184
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	ECE/SC.TECH/44
Working Party on the Chemical Industry	ECE/CHEM/86
Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation	ECE/ENG.AUT/51
Working Party on Standardization Policies	ECE/STAND/36
Working Party on Steel	ECE/STEEL/80
Committee on Agriculture	ECE/AGRI/122
Timber Committee	ECE/TIM/63
Committee on Human Settlements	ECE/HBP/86

C. Election of Officers

34. The Chairperson of the forty-eighth session of the Commission was Mr. William Rossier (Switzerland), and the Vice-Chairperson was Mr. Bernard Miyet (France).

35. The Chairperson of the Sessional Committee was Mr. Kalin A. Borissov (Bulgaria) and the Vice-Chairperson was Ms. Bettina Kirnbauer (Austria).

36. Mr. Matti Heimonen (Finland) and Mr. Adam Skrybant (Poland) were appointed Rapporteurs.

37. At its eighth meeting the Commission unanimously elected Mr. Bernard Miyet (France) as Chairperson of the forty-ninth session, and Mr. Ludwik Dembinski (Poland), Mr. Romulus Neagu (Romania) and Mr. Christer Manhusen (Sweden) as Vice-chairpersons of the forty-ninth session.

D. Account of proceedings

Changing situation in the ECE region: review of economic reforms and major developments

(agenda item 2)

38. The Commission considered this item in the Plenary together with item 3 - the Commission's activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy; and item 4 on Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Helsinki Document 1992. Points raised in the discussion concerning these items are reported separately under the appropriate headings.

39. Delegations observed that since the Commission's last session the process of unprecedented changes in the region which had begun in 1989 had continued unabated, still posing new challenges to regional cooperation. Many delegations underlined the need to address these issues collectively with the aim of finding cooperative initiatives and solutions to the political, economic and social problems confronting ECE member countries. These ongoing economic and political changes continued to offer significant opportunities for important and productive contributions by the ECE.

40. Delegations noted that the Commission's membership had continued to grow during the past year and that States from the Caucasus and Central Asia were expected to join the ECE during the coming year. These accessions bore witness to the changes the region had undergone as well as to the importance of the ECE as a forum to foster dialogue and cooperation for greater regional and global cooperation, in particular for economies in transition. Delegations warmly welcomed the new member countries of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, which brought the current number of members to 45. Hope was expressed that support would be provided to enable

the Commission to cope with the growing needs arising from its expanding membership.

41. It was generally agreed that the past year had been a difficult one for all countries in the region. The dominant concerns of the year included the continuing, and in some cases deepening, recession; high levels of unemployment; the pace of slow economic recovery in Europe and North America; currency fluctuations in Europe; increased protectionist pressures; slow and difficult adjustment to market economies in eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union; migration policies.

42. Several delegations expressed their concern about the continuing ethnic and nationalist strife in Bosnia and Herzegovina and certain other republics of the former Yugoslavia. These delegations stated that they had repeatedly condemned the atrocities, including ethnic cleansing, committed by the warring parties in the conflict, in particular by the Serbian party. Another delegation pointed out that the continuing war and aggression by the Serbian party against sovereign states which emerged from the former SFRY created enormous political and economic problems. The survival of these countries, not just economic reform, was at stake. This delegation expressed the hope that the Commission would provide the assistance to those new member States which faced such difficulties. One delegation drew the Commission's attention to the fact that the effects of the economic sanctions and other punitive measures imposed upon it pursuant to Security Council resolution 757 had been detrimental to its already strained economy and were jeopardizing the overall development of the entire Balkan region. It declared that it was doing its utmost to cooperate with the world community in order to end the civil war in Bosnia and Herzegovina and ensure a lasting peace which would create economic recovery and cooperation among the former Yugoslav republics. It felt it would be regrettable for a country or group of countries to be marginalized in the Commission. One delegation later noted that the measures imposed by the UN Security Council were fully justified and supported their full implementation.

43. Despite the difficulties experienced by the countries in transition, delegations affirmed that there was room for optimism. They noted with satisfaction that the reforms were starting to bear fruit and that indicators were improving. It was also mentioned by a few delegations that economic recovery growth had picked up in some western industrialized countries in 1992. Many delegations stressed that economic growth and prosperity, not only for industrialized countries, but for countries in transition and developing countries as well, depended upon the early conclusion of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations on the basis of a comprehensive and balanced agreement.

44. Participating in the session of the Commission for the first time, the delegation of Slovenia was headed by the Minister for Economic Affairs and Development. The Minister stated that his country faced the dual problems of how to establish itself as a new country in the political and economic space of Europe and how to render its economic and political relations compatible with other European countries. He pointed out that although Slovenia had a relatively high GDP per capita among countries in transition, political events in the Balkans had brought about a loss of one third of its markets.

Nonetheless in 1992 exports to EC countries rose by 14% and those to eastern countries by 16%. At the same time these increases could not compensate for the losses caused by the turmoil in the former Yugoslavia. On the other hand, the loss of markets had also caused a drop in imports. As a result, Slovenia had achieved a surplus in its current account balance. The growth of foreign currency reserves had enabled it to establish an internal convertibility of its currency and to move quickly towards liberalization of its international trade. Its country was not, however, out of recession and still suffered from a high and growing rate of unemployment, currently at 14%. In these circumstances, his Government had decided to continue with the stabilization of macroeconomic policy which will provide the basis for microeconomic reforms.

45. Equally significant for many delegations were the integration processes taking place at the regional and sub-regional levels, where economic cooperation and free-trade agreements between countries from all parts of the region were being established. Delegations found it gratifying that agreements had been concluded between the EC and EFTA on the one side, and the countries of central and eastern Europe on the other. A few delegations considered that fuller trade benefits could be reaped if further links were created between the separate Free Trade Areas and suggested that a common system of rules of origin be established. The benefits to be derived from the Central European Free Trade agreement were noted by a few delegations.

46. The delegation of Denmark, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, described events relating to the final phase of the creation of the Single Internal Market in 1992, and prospects for its future enlargement. A milestone had been passed at the end of 1992 with the establishment, on schedule, of the internal market, providing an area in which goods, capital, persons and services could move freely without frontiers. The Community expected a rapid ratification of the Maastricht Treaty. Several delegations referred to their application for Community membership and many delegations of countries in transition expressed their intention to seek the closest possible ties with the Community within the framework of the agreements established with it.

47. A number of delegations referred to projects and activities at the regional and sub-regional levels designed to enhance European cooperation in the Baltic region, the Black Sea, the Mediterranean, the Danube region, and in central Europe with the Central European Initiative and Visegrad Group. In the view of these delegations these sub-regional groupings played a stabilizing role in the region. They proposed a wider involvement of ECE, UNEP and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in sub-regional cooperation.

48. It was acknowledged that the ECE had continued to adapt its structure and programme of activities to the changing developments in the region. In the view of many delegations, the ECE constituted a valuable forum for the continuous and substantive exchange of views on the ongoing economic reform process. ECE has comparative advantages vis-à-vis other international organizations, in particular the most comprehensive membership among the economic organizations in Europe. The restructuring it had undergone made it

more effective and useful to Governments and the business community. Delegations commended the recent measures to streamline the Commission's annual session.

49. Many delegations considered that decisions O (45) and P (45) remained a solid foundation for the work of the Commission. They called for steps to continue to implement the decision and ensure that the necessary staff and financial resources be re-allocated to the priority areas of activity. These delegations expressed concern about the implementation of decisions O (45) and B (47), in the belief that adequate resources had not been allocated to all the priority areas, and urged that the situation be resolved rapidly. One delegation suggested that a dialogue between the Commission members and the secretariat be initiated to consider how best to address this issue. The same delegation reiterated its request that the secretariat provide information on the current deployment of financial resources.

50. Another delegation underlined the importance which it attached to implementing Commission resolution 1 (1992-S) on the strengthening of the ECE. It felt that the human and financial resources of the ECE should be strengthened through decentralization from Headquarters, in line with the growing number of activities and the Commission's increased membership. It therefore recommended that a draft resolution on the provision of additional resources for the ECE be presented to the next session of the Economic and Social Council.

51. Several delegations questioned the relevance of continuing activities in non-priority areas. They suggested that these sectors were diverting resources from more important activities and ultimately some of them may need to be eliminated. Delegations were of the opinion that the definition of five priority areas should not exclude other ECE activities. One delegation proposed that, while not challenging the established priorities, the Commission should establish "particularly important working areas", which are not covered by priorities but are of special interest to the countries in transition and are essential for implementation of "Agenda 21". In addition to the priority areas of activity there was a prevailing opinion that work should continue to focus on support of the ECE countries in transition by means of workshops and other informal meetings. However, one delegation underlined that the main strength of ECE lies in the normative work and its cooperative applications. Another delegation stated that social aspects of transition might also constitute a promising novel field of activity.

52. Delegations stressed the importance of close cooperation with other international organizations including the European Community and the OECD. Another delegation praised the efforts made to achieve cooperation and coordination of activities with other organizations and institutions active in the field of statistics.

53. Many delegations reaffirmed their support for the important work in the priority areas of statistics and economic analysis, particularly in helping countries in transition. The Economic Survey of Europe was praised for its quality and unique analysis of the situation facing the economies in transition. One delegation pointed out that the Survey's relatively negative

assessment of the assistance measures applied to date should be more balanced and take into account the organizational, structural and institutional obstacles to concrete implementation.

54. Delegations expressed appreciation of the work accomplished and the results achieved in the field of the environment and water problems during the past year. Particular mention was made of the importance of development and implementation of regional legally binding instruments for environmental protection. Emphasis was placed on the drawing up of a second generation of air pollution controls, in particular the new protocol on sulphur emissions and on implementing existing conventions. The delegation of Denmark, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, called upon all member States which had not yet ratified or acceded to the ECE environmental conventions to do so as soon as possible. It was of the view that the key objectives in this area were the effective implementation of the conventions and the strengthening of compliance and verification measures.

55. Delegations expressed their appreciation for the Commission's contribution to the Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" to be held in Lucerne, Switzerland from 28-30 April 1993.

56. Underscoring the importance they accorded to environment and sustainable development, many delegations voiced their support for ECE's activities in this priority area. A number of delegates endorsed the convening of a regional conference on environment and transport as a follow-up to Agenda 21 of the UNCED. One delegation recommended that the Commission study the feasibility of convening the conference in 1996 and take a final decision at its forty-ninth session.

57. Another delegation suggested that the ECE could adopt a programme of seminars and other activities to facilitate the establishment of a network of small business advisory centres in the transition countries, including an international industrial technology data bank for small and medium-sized enterprises to be set up within the programme. The Commission could also participate in the organization of international fairs on issues of sustainable industrial development accompanied by international meetings on practical issues relating to sustainable industrial development.

58. Delegations underlined the vital importance of transport development in the ECE region in the context of the current economic and social changes occurring in the region. Particular mention was made of the elaboration of Pan-European Transport Networks, the Trans-European Motorway (TEM) and Trans-European Railway (TER) Projects.

59. Continued support was expressed for the preparation and administration of existing international transport agreements and recommendations, particularly regarding infrastructure, such as the AGR, AGC and AGTC Agreements. Several delegations welcomed the conclusions of the Seminar on the Impact of Increasing Dimensions of Loading Units on Combined Transport. Many indicated their interest in furthering work in the area of transport and sustainable development.

60. Delegations continued to attach great importance to work in the area of trade facilitation, notably the continuing development and global extension of the UN/EDIFACT Project. Noting that trade facilitation had not yet been given an adequate place in the operational setting of the Commission, one delegation suggested that the status of trade facilitation should be equal to that of other priority areas. Delegations expressed their concern over the delay in providing the necessary staff resources for this priority project.

61. Support was also expressed for the Commission's work on trade and industrial cooperation. One delegation felt work should be commenced on the continuity of trade relations among the reform countries, including the successor states of the Soviet Union, with the aim of restoring and expanding trade relations in central and eastern Europe on a free market basis. Mention was made of the Workshop on the Promotion of Foreign Direct Investment scheduled to take place in Ljubljana in June 1993. Several delegations voiced appreciation of Round Tables as a means of sharing experience on reforms in countries in transition.

62. Interest was expressed in continuing work in the fields of energy, standardization, science and technology, industry, human settlements, agriculture and timber, and conversion. A number of delegations underlined the importance of continuing international cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster.

63. Three delegations stressed the global character of the Chernobyl disaster and proposed that the subsidiary bodies be directly involved in coordinated activities to address and mitigate the consequences stemming therefrom. These delegations urged the Commission member States to endorse the relevant draft decision submitted by the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Belarus and Poland. (See para. 194 below.)

Presentation of the Economic Survey of Europe for 1992-1993 and exchange of views

Documentation : Pre-publication text of the Economic Survey of Europe in 1992-1993 and Economic Bulletin for Europe, Vol. 44

64. Delegations reported on economic performance in their countries in 1992 and prospects for 1993, pointing at the same time to policy problems confronting the region as a whole.

65. In general, delegations agreed with the assessment of economic developments and prospects in the ECE region contained in the Survey and commended the secretariat for the thorough and competent analysis of the economic situation.

66. With respect to the western industrial countries it was pointed out that economic developments had, as in the previous year, been disappointing in 1992. In North America the recovery had gained momentum. In western Europe there was a significant deterioration in economic conditions and the outlook for 1993 was judged to be rather bleak. High and rising unemployment as well

as a significant deterioration in the financial positions of the public sector had become a major matter of concern for policy-makers.

67. In the countries in transition the economic crisis had deepened further in 1992 but at the same time it was agreed that the general feature had been for increasing diversity among the various countries with respect to the economic performance and progress in systemic change. In appraising economic developments, delegations reported on the difficulties of containing macro-economic imbalances and of making progress in structural reforms, including the creation of the institutions of a market economy. In some countries political instability impeded progress in these areas. The collapse of intra-regional trade was identified by several delegations as an important factor in the economic crisis. Economic prospects for 1993 were very difficult to gauge but there were hopes that in some countries positive, albeit small, growth rates would be recorded.

68. One delegation emphasized the importance of commitment to the process of transition taking into consideration the alleviation of the human costs associated with the process. The process of transition was not without risk, however, and strong measures must be taken and hard choices made. Wavering of purpose could result in inertia or reversion to failed policies.

69. Western financial and technical assistance was stressed by some delegations as being important for progress in economic reform and for a sustained recovery of output levels. It was pointed out that supporting the new democracies and the construction of market economies was in the self-interest of western countries. Some delegations stressed the importance of stepping up western assistance; others noted the need for an assessment of methods of assistance and for more effective coordination, including a comprehensive monitoring system for the assistance provided.

70. Some delegations stressed the need to improve the supply of economic statistics pertaining to the countries in transition, especially information required for the macro-economic analysis of the process of transition. One delegation referred to the need for a more rigorous selection of sources used in the Survey.

71. Some delegations noted that ECE had a role to play in coordinating and providing assistance to the countries in transition, given its comprehensive membership and the accumulated knowledge of these countries.

72. An important element in creating a conducive environment for a recovery in output was seen to be enhanced access to western markets. It was stressed that aid and trade should not be seen as substitutes but rather as complements.

73. Some delegations pointed to the increasing importance of migration in the ECE region and regarded the ECE Population Conference held in March 1993, which had also dealt with this topical issue, as a success.

74. Many delegations acknowledged that the task of economic analysis was hindered by important resource constraints facing the secretariat, which were

intensified by the significant increase in the number of countries in transition. Several delegations expressed their hope that a solution to this problem could be found in the near future.

Commission's activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy
(agenda item 3)

Documentation: E/ECE/1272

75. Delegations noted that the transition process had proved more difficult and complex than originally expected, and emphasized the need for additional international financial and technical assistance and counselling. It was recognized that both bilateral and multilateral initiatives were needed to secure the success of the reforms and mitigate the hardships experienced by the countries in transition, as well as to promote their integration into the European and global economy. Delegations stressed that these efforts should be undertaken in a cooperative and coordinated manner within the framework of international organizations and institutions as well as at the bilateral level.

76. Several delegations remarked that the multiplicity of donor countries and institutions underlined the necessity for assistance activities to be conducted in a coherent and coordinated manner so as to avoid duplication. A number of delegations discussed ways to achieve this goal. One delegation believed that a fast and reliable information system to monitor the technical, financial and other assistance provided to the countries in transition was urgently needed and felt that the ECE should have a role in this endeavour in order to contribute to a more efficient implementation of the reforms. Another delegation expressed the view that the aid programmes should be coordinated within the OECD, the IMF and the EBRD. Another delegation called for the elaboration and implementation of a "Grand Strategy to Support Democratic Transition". One of the important aspects of the long-term strategy would be the full participation of central and east European countries in the mainstream of activities of the European institutions.

77. Many countries in transition considered that assistance should focus on privatization, direct foreign investment, easier access to world markets for their products, and the elimination of trade barriers and restrictions, including COCOM restrictions.

78. Delegations representing countries in transition provided information on the economic, political and social developments in their countries and prospects for the future. They also discussed policy problems pertaining to their transition to market-oriented economies. They described legislative, economic reform and restructuring measures which they had taken to further the process of transition to a market economy. They highlighted the difficulties which they had encountered to date. Particular mention was made of a decline in industrial production, rising inflation, continuing political instability and the lack of resources for social programmes. These delegations expressed their determination to pursue economic, social and political reform and

expressed their desire to participate as fully as possible in such institutions as the European Community, the OECD, the Council of Europe, IMF and the World Bank, as well as the ECE. They expressed their gratitude for the financial and technical assistance that was being extended to them by other Governments and international organizations and institutions.

79. The delegation of Denmark, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, and the representative of the Commission of the European Communities outlined the Community's activities designed to overcome the problems associated with the transition process by developing its relationship with the reforming countries of central and eastern Europe, the Russian Federation and the other newly independent States of the former Soviet Union. Particular mention was made of the Association Agreements negotiated with Poland, Hungary, the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Romania and Bulgaria designed to improve market access. Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreements had also been signed with Albania, the Baltic States and Slovenia. The Community had opened negotiations to conclude partnership and cooperation agreements with Belarus, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and other newly independent States which aim to establish a new relationship between the Community and these countries. The agreements will cover a broad range of political, economic and commercial relations. Reference was also made to the PHARE programme and the role played by the Commission of the European Communities in coordinating assistance by western countries within the framework of the Group of 24. Mention was also made of coordinated aid to the countries successors of the former USSR through the TACIS programme.

80. Other delegations underlined assistance measures their Governments had launched or were continuing. The delegation of the United States drew attention to the Washington Coordinating Conference, the Freedom Support Act of 1992 and the recent Vancouver Summit between President Clinton and President Yeltsin. Measures announced there included additional agricultural credits and other humanitarian aid and technical assistance at the grass roots level. The delegation of Turkey referred to its experience in launching reforms for structural change towards a liberal economy which it suggested had much to offer to the economies in transition. The delegation of Germany spoke of its Government's relief programme which focused on economic counselling.

81. Many delegations agreed that the ECE had an important role to play in assisting the countries in transition. Appreciation was expressed for the analytical work and research undertaken by the ECE relating to the problems facing these countries. Appreciation was also expressed for the workshops which had been held and for other activities designed to assist countries in transition. Some delegations felt that the workshops should be evaluated in order to assess what further action should be taken, taking into account the activities of other bodies and in the bilateral context. Many delegations expressed their conviction that there was a need to explore further ways of ensuring the availability of adequate resources for this programme and some noted that a Trust Fund had been established for this purpose. Several delegations expressed their gratitude to countries which had donated to the Trust Fund. It was also felt that the filling of present and foreseen vacancies in the ECE secretariat was of utmost importance for the effective implementation of the ECE activities in favour of the countries in transition.

82. In view of the increasing number of economies in transition in the Commission, one delegation proposed that the workshops be included in the Commission's programme of work as a priority area of activity. The ECE might also establish a programme to facilitate the establishment of a network of small business advisory centres in the economies in transition. The delegation of the Ukraine proposed to host a workshop on the development of metallurgy and recycling in 1994.

83. At its ninth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision B (48) on the Commission's activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy (for the text see Chapter IV).

Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Helsinki Document 1992

(agenda item 4)

84. Many delegations underlined that the CSCE process had a vital role to play in the new European architecture and welcomed the fact that the past year had witnessed a significant development in the CSCE process. The Helsinki Summit Meeting in 1992 and the Prague Economic Forum of the CSCE Committee of Senior Officials had both provided new impetus to the CSCE activities. Delegations welcomed the outcome of these meetings noting their importance for the future work of the ECE. The Helsinki Document 1992: The Challenges of Change confirmed the valuable contribution inter alia the ECE could make to the economic discussions of the CSCE and welcomed the fact that the Commission had identified priority areas of action and included in its work the promotion of reforms in the economies in transition. Delegations expressed their satisfaction that full recognition had thus been given to the Commission's experience in its priority areas and to the practical nature of its activities.

85. It was considered that the CSCE Economic Forum had provided additional impetus to the discussion of the process of transition. Delegations expressed their appreciation of the constructive and valuable contributions to the Forum by international organizations, including the ECE, which were invited to participate in the meeting.

86. A number of delegations hailed the closer cooperation between the Commission and the CSCE. These delegations felt that the ECE should continue its involvement in the CSCE process and, together with other organizations, define areas of cooperation and avoid duplication of efforts.

87. Many delegations underlined the continuing importance they attached to the strengthening of security and economic cooperation in the Mediterranean region, in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE Helsinki Summit and the subsequent CSCE Documents. Emphasis was placed on work in the fields of transport and the protection of the environment. In this respect mention was made of the Mediterranean Action Plan which it was hoped would suggest possible ECE work in the field of environment in the region. One delegation

considered that the ECE could contribute to the enhancement of the work of the Mediterranean transport centres located in Barcelona, Volos and Istanbul.

88. Many delegations looked forward to the forthcoming CSCE Valetta Seminar on Mediterranean Cooperation to be held in May 1993, in the expectation that it would increase the participation of the non-participating Mediterranean States in this aspect of the CSCE process. In the area of the environment they looked to improved coordination and consistency of application of the existing programme and in the area of population issues, they saw the seminar providing a necessary forum for reflection on these complex questions.

89. At its ninth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision C (48) on economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (for the text see Chapter IV).

The work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies
(agenda item 5)

Documentation: E/ECE/1274, E/ECE/1275, E/ECE/1276, E/ECE/1282, E/ECE/1283

90. This item was passed to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration. An account of the discussions under sub-items 5(a) to (e) is contained in paragraphs 93-196 below under the appropriate sub-headings.

91. At its ninth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision D (48) on the work of the Commission and its future activities (for the text see Chapter IV).

92. At its ninth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision E (48) on the provision of adequate resources for the servicing of the priority and other sectors of the Economic Commission for Europe (for the text see Chapter IV).

Review of ECE activities since the forty-seventh session and implementation of decision O (45) and decisions of the forty-seventh session
(agenda item 5(a))

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems

Documentation: ECE/ENVWA/29, E/ECE/1275

93. Delegations recognized the importance of the Senior Advisers as a forum for the development and implementation of regional legally binding instruments for environmental protection. Delegations generally supported the Senior Advisers' plan to reorient their activities with more emphasis on the development of regional environmental policies, on the follow-up at regional level of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), on assisting countries in transition in strengthening their environmental management capabilities, and on improving coordination of environment-related activities of various international organizations active in the ECE region.

94. Delegations welcomed the progress achieved in the implementation of three new environmental conventions, pending their entry into force, and several delegations declared the readiness of their Governments to accede to the new conventions in the course of 1993. Several delegations called upon all member States which had not yet ratified or acceded to the ECE environmental conventions, to do so as soon as possible. They proposed that the secretariat be entrusted with the preparation of a report on the work of the ECE to implement Agenda 21, for transmission to the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, taking into account activities of other international organizations in the ECE region and the division of labour among them.

95. One delegation voiced its support for the convening of regional conferences on environment and transport, and on environment and energy, which might lead to the elaboration of specific plans of action, for example, in the field of transfer of environmental technologies and experiences. Some delegations expressed their interest in access to environmental technologies, in particular in the field of energy, and technical assistance in the implementation of ECE conventions and protocols.

96. Delegations welcomed the convening of the Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" to be held in Lucerne (Switzerland) from 28 to 30 April 1993, and expressed their appreciation for the Senior Advisers' contribution to that Conference. It was stressed that this Conference would provide new impetus to the ECE activities in the field of the environment.

97. Two delegations emphasized that the Senior Advisers should be fully involved in the implementation of decision C (46) on international cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant.

98. Delegations commended the joint activities undertaken by the Senior Advisers and the Senior Economic Advisers in close cooperation with OECD in the field of environment and economics and some delegations stressed that the Senior Advisers should be involved in the extension of the system of environmental performance reviews developed by OECD for its member countries, to other countries in the ECE region.

99. Several delegations expressed concern about the inadequacy of the resources available in this priority sector and requested the Executive Secretary to remedy the situation.

100. The Commission endorsed the report of the Senior Advisers, including their programme of work.

101. At its ninth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision F (48) on cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development (for the text see Chapter IV).

Inland Transport Committee

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/97 and Add.1, E/ECE/1276

102. All delegations participating in the discussion expressed their continued interest in the work being done in this priority sector. In particular, they expressed the view that the Committee's revised terms of reference reflected the importance of ECE's role in a political and economic environment undergoing far-reaching changes and affording opportunities for effective cooperation with the European Community and other international organizations also assuming responsibilities for inland transport within the region.

103. Delegations referred repeatedly to the programmes of work of the various groups of experts and the major role which they could play in the harmonized development of regulations for transport equipment and operations at the European level.

104. Several delegations also noted the importance of the Inland Transport Committee's role in the preparation of European conventions/agreements on inland transport infrastructure (AGR, AGC, AGCT, AGN) and on the TEM and TER programmes. However, they expressed regret at the lack of UNDP funding for those programmes.

105. Delegations expressed appreciation of the Inland Transport Committee's role in preparing and organizing working meetings for the countries in transition. However, the lack of funding was considered detrimental to the dissemination and effective implementation of the findings of those meetings. The Romanian delegation reported to the Commission on preparations for two workshops to be held in its country in 1993, one concerning the privatization of passenger road transport and the other on the modernization of inland waterways and the improvement of port operations. Funding for those activities would be welcome.

106. Finally, delegations noted with concern the worsening human resources situation in the Transport Division and urged the secretariat to remedy it as soon as possible. The secretariat explained the reasons for that situation, which had to do mainly with restrictions on recruitment, and said that numerous approaches had been made to United Nations Headquarters with a view to improving the situation.

107. The Commission endorsed the Committee's report including its revised terms of reference and its programme of work.

108. At its ninth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision G (48) on cooperation in the field of transport (for the text see Chapter IV).

Conference of European Statisticians

Documentation: ECE/CES/40, ECE/CES/41

109. Many delegations commented favourably on the work of the Conference during 1992-93 and welcomed the progress made despite the problem of

insufficient secretariat resources due in part to the freeze on external recruitment.

110. The progress made in coordinating the programme of work with that of EUROSTAT and the OECD was commended, in particular the initiative taken in preparing an integrated presentation of the ECE, EUROSTAT and OECD work programmes. This development was welcomed as a valuable tool for improving collaboration between the three organizations, for coordinating the meeting and work programmes, and for enabling a more efficient use of resources. One delegation suggested that this approach could be followed by other PSBs in their cooperation with other international organizations.

111. The Commission noted the interim report of the Bureau of the Conference on the evaluation of ECE statistical publications. Several delegations emphasized the importance of this work and noted the improvements planned for several titles and the cross-sectoral review to be carried out on the others in the coming months by the secretariat for presentation to the relevant PSBs. Several delegations expressed the hope that the evaluation exercise would indicate the savings achieved, and that similar exercises might be carried out in other areas and fora.

112. Several delegations welcomed the appointment of the new Director of the Statistical Division, while expressing concern over other vacancies in the Division and the negative impact this was having on work in this high priority sector. They also noted that resources were urgently needed for the secretariat to carry out its tasks in this priority area which member States had agreed, including coordination with other international organizations in the region and work on transition issues.

113. Highlighted in the discussions were the work on environment statistics, transition issues, the European Comparison Programme and statistical information technology.

114. The Commission endorsed the report of the Conference, including its programme of work.

Committee on the Development of Trade

Documentation: ECE/TRADE/184

115. Many delegations expressed satisfaction with the activities of the Committee including the revision of its programme of work to achieve greater effectiveness and balance. The decision by the Committee to select a specific subject for discussion at each year's session was welcomed.

116. A number of delegations emphasized the significance of the work in the field of privatization since this constituted a core element in the economic reforms being implemented in the countries in transition. They welcomed the adoption of the final text of the Guide on "Privatization and foreign investment in the countries of central and eastern Europe: Legal aspects" and urged rapid preparation of a new Guide on the "Financing of east-west trade/privatization in central and eastern Europe".

117. Many delegations voiced appreciation of the organization of workshops and Round Tables as a means of sharing experience and supporting reforms in countries in transition. Mention was made of the workshop on the Promotion of Foreign Direct Investment scheduled to take place in Ljubljana (Slovenia) in June 1993 and other forms of information transfer in the areas of foreign direct investment, including joint ventures; small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and the improvement of conditions for their participation in interregional trade; foreign trade and payments reforms; conditions conducive to expanding trade among countries in transition and the preparation of the Economic Bulletin for Europe.

118. One delegation suggested that the Commission should promote favourable conditions for increasing export of the high-technological products from the countries in transition.

119. The Commission endorsed the report of the Committee, including its programme of work.

Trade Facilitation

120. The Chairman of the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures (WP.4) provided background information on the concept of trade facilitation and commented on the substantial progress made by the Working Party. He noted that staff resources were now adequate but expressed concern that the secretariat still lacked sufficient resources for equipment and travel - an observation which was endorsed by a number of other delegations.

121. Many delegations emphasized the importance of the work done by the Working Party and noted with satisfaction the work accomplished in the field of trade facilitation and especially EDIFACT.

122. It was noted that ECOSOC had asked the ECE to coordinate on an interregional level the dissemination of trade facilitation and EDIFACT and that this was being done. Further, it was observed that although Trade Facilitation was a priority work sector, it did not report directly to the Commission. Several delegations proposed for consideration that the status of WP.4 be changed so that it could report directly to the Commission.

123. One delegate observed that a comprehensive publication or introductory manual on trade facilitation would be useful, in particular for countries in transition. It also supported the proposal for a programme of assistance to countries in transition and the use of the ECE trust fund to assist these countries.

124. Several delegations welcomed the establishment of the intersecretariat task force established between the ECE, UNCTAD and the ITC and looked forward to the contribution that this would make to improve coordination.

Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments

Documentation: ECE/EC.AD/40, E/ECE/1272

125. All delegations participating in the discussion expressed their high appreciation of the work accomplished by the Senior Economic Advisers and stressed that their activities provided a valuable forum for discussing issues of economic analysis and for assisting countries in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy.

126. Referring to the need for increased cooperation with other PSBs, delegations noted the high quality of the work accomplished by the Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics and suggested that this kind of joint activity be extended to other issues such as privatization. The ongoing need for coordination with other international organizations was also underlined. In this connection one delegation stated that steps should be taken to ensure the participation of the OECD secretariat in the future sessions of the Senior Economic Advisers.

127. The Commission endorsed the report of the Senior Economic Advisers, including their programme of work.

Committee on Energy

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/21

128. The energy programme was considered to be an important part of the overall work of ECE. Satisfaction was expressed with the results achieved in implementation of the Energy Efficiency 2000 project and its demonstration zones. Some delegations suggested that the Energy Efficiency 2000 project could continue beyond its present term (31 May 1994) and be redirected with emphasis on energy efficiency demonstration zones and cost/benefit analyses.

129. The Commission noted that the Committee on Energy had submitted the Global Energy 21 Project to it for consideration and possible transmission to ECOSOC.

130. Among the other activities, the interconnection of gas and electric power systems, clean-coal technologies for power generation, reconstruction of electric power stations and the elaboration of efficiency standards were singled out as particularly useful. Great interest was shown in the problems of assistance to economies in transition in these fields, evidenced by the great number of workshops requested and held. The opinion was expressed that coordination of ECE activities with those of other intergovernmental organizations should be pursued so as to define the precise role of the ECE energy programme, also with regard to the European Energy Charter. Delegations expressed concern at the vacancy situation in the Energy Division.

131. The Commission endorsed the report of the Committee, including its programme of work.

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology

Documentation: ECE/SC.TECH/44

132. Several delegations underlined the important role which the Senior Advisers played in exchanging views and experiences in the field of research and development policy. They supported the programme of work and welcomed, in particular, the continued cooperation between ECE and OECD in the field of science and technology statistics.

133. Another delegation while expressing interest and support for the work of the Senior Advisers, pointed out that this body had greater potential to influence the transition process in central and eastern Europe and to contribute to the practical realization of the provisions of the CSCE Helsinki Document 1992 aimed at developing European scientific and technological cooperation. In particular, it referred to such issues as the interrelationship between state and private sectors in science and technology; the reorganization of science and technology management systems; and legal aspects of scientific and technological activity. Another delegation spoke in favour of adding science and technology to the priority areas of the Commission.

134. The Commission endorsed the report of the Senior Advisers including their programme of work.

Working Party on the Chemical Industry

Documentation: ECE/CHEM/86

135. Delegations expressed their appreciation and support for the activities carried out by the Working Party, noting that the programme of work had been concentrated and restructured around the priorities and general guidelines set out in decision O (45) and, in particular, those relating to sustainable development.

136. Delegates stressed the importance of the follow-up process to the High-level Meeting on Cooperation and Sustainable Development in the Chemical Industry, held in Warsaw, (Poland) in March 1992. Support for the proposal of the Government of Poland to establish a Regional Environmental Management Centre for the Chemical Industry was expressed, as well as for the pilot project demonstrating the environmental clean-up of selected chemical production sites in the economies in transition. Delegations supported the assistance being provided to the countries in transition.

137. Concern was expressed about the current limited staff resources in the secretariat. In this context, several delegations suggested that the proposed study on structural and ownership changes in the chemical industry might be activated possibly by using a system of national rapporteurs.

138. The Commission endorsed the report of the Working Party including its programme of work.

139. At its ninth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision H (48) on cooperation and sustainable development in the chemical industry (for the text see Chapter IV).

Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation

Documentation: ECE/ENG.AUT/51

140. Delegations welcomed the efforts of the Working Party to refocus its resources on the priority areas established by the Commission. It was noted with appreciation that most activities in the fields of environment, economic analysis and statistics had been undertaken in close cooperation with other international organizations and focused on the major needs of the economies in transition.

141. Delegations from the economies in transition spoke of the problems faced by the engineering industries in their countries in restructuring, privatization, investment and other issues during the transformation process. They stressed that the Working Party should play an active role in providing assistance to these countries in specific areas of industry and advisory services.

142. The Chairperson of the Working Party underlined the importance of the continuing cooperation between ECE and OECD in the development of engineering statistics. She drew attention to the Seminar on Foundry Production and Ecology to be held in Belarus in May 1993, and to the preparation of a final publication on rehabilitation engineering, which, together with a series of workshops held in 1990-1992, might be considered as the principal contribution both to the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons and to the forthcoming World Summit on Social Development.

143. The Commission endorsed the report of the Working Party including its programme of work.

Working Party on Standardization Policies

Documentation: ECE/STAND/36

144. Several delegations commented favourably on the activities of the Working Party and considered that its revised terms of reference opened up new possibilities for promoting international trade and industrial development. Several delegations noted the role of the Working Party as a forum where Governments could address standardization policies from a global perspective with a view to devising programmes that supported open world trade and industrial development.

145. The Vice-Chairman of the Working Party presented its envisaged programme and noted that five workshops on standardization policies had been held in transition countries in 1992 and three further workshops were planned for 1993.

146. The Commission endorsed the report of the Working Party including its programme of work.

Working Party on Steel

Documentation: ECE/STEEL/80

147. Delegations noted that the activities of the Working Party attracted the active participation of representatives from industry and Governments and that its sphere of influence extended beyond the ECE region. Delegations supported, in particular, the programme on short-term developments and prospects in the steel industry and the world steel market; the programme on metallurgy and ecology; and the programme of assistance to countries in transition.

148. The Chairman of the Working Party referred to the priorities in the programme of work and stressed the importance of work in the field of statistics and the analysis of the steel market. He noted the importance of seminars and study tours (Czech Republic and Slovakia, 1993; Japan, 1994) which provided an efficient means of communication between experts and government representatives in steel producing countries. He spoke of the role played in assisting the countries in transition in restructuring their steel industries. In this regard, he noted the cooperative initiatives of the UN/ECE, the World Bank, the Commission of the European Communities, the International Iron and Steel Institute and EBRD in undertaking a review of the steel industries in the countries in transition.

149. The Commission endorsed the report of the Working Party including its programme of work.

General statements on the sub-programme "Industry and Technology"

150. Several delegations covered in their statements all the five preceding sectors in the area of industry and technology.

151. One delegation considered that since ECE's work relating to science and technology and industry had not been identified as a priority of the Commission, this limited ECE's ability to deal with issues in these areas, which represented the basis for economic development and growth for the economies in transition and the sectors which were experiencing the most profound changes in those countries. Consequently a number of delegations attached particular importance to and assessed positively the work of the bodies active in these fields as well as the assistance they provided to the economies in transition. In this connection one delegation favoured adding activities relating to science and technology, industry, chemicals and energy to the priority areas of the Commission.

152. One delegation believed that the work in these areas should be extended to provide a broad range of advisory services and centres for industry. The trust fund established was of considerable value and would allow experts from the economies in transition to participate actively in the work of the Commission.

153. Another delegation considered that industrial policy represented a cornerstone of the transition process, and that it was timely for the Governments in the economies in transition to deal with this question. It considered that the Commission should give consideration to the creation of an Industry and Technology Committee and that it should be added to the priority areas of the Commission. The delegation suggested that member Governments should elaborate a Statement on Sustainable Industrial Development as a prerequisite for entrance into the twenty-first century and that this Statement should be ready for the fiftieth anniversary of the Commission. The delegation of Ukraine proposed to hold a workshop on metallurgy and recycling in 1994.

154. Several delegations, while appreciating the efforts of the secretariat and the subsidiary bodies to implement the provisions of decision O (45), said that they would welcome further concentration of the programmes of work in the industrial sectors, based on the guidelines contained in that decision.

155. One delegation drew attention to the difficult resource situation in the Industry and Technology Division.

Committee on Agriculture

Documentation: ECE/AGRI/122

156. One delegation expressed the view that the current activities on markets and trade should be continued, and highly appreciated the work devoted to economic analysis and farm management, the relations between agriculture and environment, and assistance to countries in transition. Also mentioned as being priority activities were standardization and statistics. One delegation stated that the programme of work should be more oriented towards practical activities beneficial to countries in transition, and result in recommendations relating in particular to the legal status of farms, their profitability and farmers' training. Interest was also expressed in activities on small and medium-size farms, storage, the impact of agriculture on the environment, the economic and social aspects of nuclear contamination and the State price and support policies in the agri-food sector.

157. The delegation of Slovakia expressed its readiness to host in 1994 a workshop on the transformation of the agricultural sector and related governmental policies.

158. The Commission endorsed the report of the Committee including its programme of work and priorities, and agreed to allocate the additional meeting resources requested by the Committee.

Timber Committee

Documentation: ECE/TIM/63

159. Delegations expressed their appreciation of the work of the Committee and of its subsidiary bodies. They stressed the importance of the forest and forest products sector in their economies and in countries in transition and

the need for further international assistance to foster ongoing reforms. They underlined that the Committee constituted a valuable forum for exchange of information and discussion at which business, industry and research participated alongside government representatives. The close cooperation with FAO's European Forestry Commission was also welcomed.

160. Some delegations commended the progress on the study on European Timber Trends and prospects (ETTS-V). Several delegations commended activities carried out and planned for assistance to countries in transition. One delegation outlined the usefulness of the meeting at Ossiach (Austria, 1992) in establishing the concept for the Committee's assistance programme for countries in transition. The delegations of the Russian Federation and Ukraine expressed particular interest in the work on effects of radiation on forests and confirmed their commitment to host the 1993 meetings of the team of experts. The workshop on forest legislation (Poland, 1993) and the seminar on multifunctional machinery (Russian Federation, 1993) were confirmed. The preparation of a workshop on organization of forestry under market conditions (Slovakia, 1993) was announced. The work under the joint ILO/FAO/ECE Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training was also commended.

161. The Chairman of the Committee highlighted the professional participation in the Committee's meetings, noted the progress made jointly with FAO and the Conference of European Statisticians in improving the collection and dissemination of statistics and explained that 70% of resources available were devoted to the 5 highest priority items in the Committee's programme of work.

162. The Commission endorsed the report of the Committee including its programme of work and priorities and agreed to the request by the Committee and its Chairman for additional meeting resources.

Committee on Human Settlements

Documentation: ECE/HBP/86

163. Delegations expressed their appreciation of the efforts by the Committee to increase its efficiency and noted that its work now focused on two main objectives: promotion of sustainable settlement development and assistance to the transition process. Other measures such as the enlargement of the bureau and innovative reporting procedures were also noted. The close cooperation with the Energy Efficiency 2000 Project was welcomed as was the Committee's preparedness to contribute to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II).

164. The importance of the promotion of sustainable development of human settlements and related work was underlined, e.g. the development of guidelines for sustainable human settlements planning and management. The assistance provided to countries in transition through, for example, workshops and the Housing Policy Guidelines was highly appreciated. In this respect the difficulties encountered in ensuring the participation of experts from countries in transition and new countries were mentioned.

165. Delegations considered that participation of non-governmental organizations in the Committee's work should be enhanced and that cooperation with other intergovernmental organizations should be continued, in particular with UNCHS (HABITAT) in order to avoid any possible overlapping in providing assistance to countries in transition.

166. Concern was voiced about the secretariat resources available for this subprogramme and some delegations stated that the present resources represented the bare minimum to continue this work in an adequate manner.

167. The Commission endorsed the report of the Committee including its programme of work and the revised terms of reference.

ECE programme of work for 1993-1997 - the future work of the Commission; coordination of, and guidelines for, the activities of its subsidiary bodies

(agenda item 5(b))

168. The Commission also discussed its programme of work and that of its subsidiary bodies from the cross-sectoral point of view. This "horizontal" review was presided over by the Chairman of the Commission who structured the discussion under three headings, namely the means and methods of work of the subsidiary bodies, assistance to countries in transition and participation in the work of the Commission, and cooperation with other international fora.

169. In discussing the methods of work of the subsidiary bodies the question was raised as to the relationship between advance preparation of decisions by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the elaboration of decisions at the session. The problem inherent in the annual cycle of ECE meetings of the delays in implementing Commission decisions or those of international conferences was also invoked. By way of example a number of delegations referred to the importance of implementing Agenda 21 of the UNCED as both a short- and long-term activity for all PSBs, taking into account document ENVWA/R.69. Reference was also made to the need for immediate action to follow up what were expected to be the results of the Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" (Lucerne, Switzerland, 28-30 April 1993) without waiting for the forty-ninth session of the Commission.

170. The discussion concluded that the active participation of national delegations, not only in the PSBs but also in consultations and informal meetings in Geneva, including concrete proposals for Commission decisions, was a rational way of influencing the content of the decisions. It was also recalled that in order to adopt decisions without delay on matters of urgency a brief special session of the Commission could be convened in conjunction with an Ad Hoc Informal Meeting, as happened in 1992.

171. In the field of statistics the effective participation of the Statistical Directors of Eurostat and OECD in the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) was cited as an example of excellent cooperation between ECE and other multilateral institutions. At the same time attention was drawn to the lack of coordination to date between the PSBs in this field, and that this might be overcome through a delegation of functions but not

responsibility to the CES for the coordination of statistics for the ECE as a whole.

172. It was noted that the Executive Secretary's coordinating role within the secretariat for cross-sectoral issues could be reinforced by assigning a lead role to a division, depending upon the subject. The full potential of inter-sectoral teams in the secretariat was however yet to be realized. It is envisaged that work on the feasibility study for the Conference on Transport and the Environment will be undertaken by such a team consisting of representatives from several divisions. Emphasis was also placed on the usefulness of a greater role for the PSB bureaux and the organization of informal governmental consultations between sessions. Both methods should be seen as practical tools for streamlining the activities of PSBs and ensuring the most efficient use of existing resources.

173. Some delegations noted the reduction of the duration and frequency of meetings and the volume of documentation resulting from the adoption of decision O (45). They spoke of the shortcomings of informal meetings without interpretation and asked the Executive Secretary to review the situation. Others referred to difficulties resulting from the lack of adequate and timely information, especially the late issuance of ECE documents.

174. Several delegations and chairpersons of PSBs drew attention to the lack of secretariat resources to carry out the existing programmes of work. Some delegations referred to the zero-growth budget of the ECE for more than a decade and possible ways of increasing ECE resources. The Executive Secretary referred to his many efforts to fill vacancies in the face of the recruitment freeze. Proposals for restructuring the ECE by decentralizing activities and commensurate resources from Headquarters had been submitted to Headquarters and would be taken up in early May by the Task Force established by the Secretary-General with the participation of the regional commissions.

175. The Chairman and the Executive Secretary addressed in detail the present situation of the Commission and its new role and functions in the UN system as a whole, and indicated a number of possible means to strengthen international cooperation in the ECE region.

176. Under the heading of assistance to countries in transition two main issues were addressed, namely the role and benefit of the programme of workshops, and the role of the ECE in training seminars/courses for experts from countries in transition. Some delegations made proposals to improve the efficiency of workshops and make better use of their results. These included an expanded role for the secretariat in the preparation of workshops and in the analysis of their results. They also spoke of a wider dissemination of the results of the workshops. Several delegations called for ways to ensure the financing of the workshops and follow-up activities. The usefulness of holding a series of workshops on the same subject in different countries in transition was also mentioned.

177. As regards the role of the ECE in organizing or coordinating training seminars/courses for experts from countries in transition, some delegations placed emphasis on new forms of activity, in particular on the possible

creation of a consulting centre, whose functions would include setting up a data bank of available programmes and material of assistance and a register of experts in specific areas. The need for the training of experts was stressed in the fields of standardization, energy and environmentally sound technologies. Special attention was given to the problem of privatization in these countries and the development of various guidelines and recommendations to facilitate this process.

178. Countries in transition, in referring to document E/ECE/1272 and other information concerning workshops for economies in transition, expressed their appreciation of efforts made by the secretariat and the activities of subsidiary bodies in this field. Delegations called for the continuation of these activities as an efficient mechanism to assist countries during the period of transition.

179. The discussion of participation in the activities of the Commission and cooperation with other international fora addressed questions relating to the interests of the private sector and those of member States; tasks and activities of the Commission in the implementation of the resolutions of the General Assembly or ECOSOC and Agenda 21 of the UNCED; cooperation with other international organizations and institutions; dissemination of the results of and information about the Commission's activities.

180. A number of examples were given to illustrate the growing interest of the business community in the activities of the ECE. However, delegations suggested that the image of the ECE could be considerably improved by wider dissemination of information about its activities among the business community, in particular statistical publications and technical studies.

181. There was general agreement that progress had been made in coordinating the ECE activities with other international organizations and institutions, for example with Eurostat and OECD in the field of statistics, and with OECD in the field of the environment. Such a process should continue in order to avoid duplication of work and to ensure optimal use of resources. Reference was made to document E/ECE/1278 which reflected ECE cooperation and coordination with other international organizations and institutions in detail.

182. The Chairman concluded the discussion by requesting the Executive Secretary to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General the Commission's socio-economic activities, as contained in the Annex to document E/ECE/1279, as a contribution to the World Summit for Social Development, as well as its activities to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Helsinki Document 1992 (E/ECE/1273).

183. At its ninth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision I (48) on reporting from the subsidiary bodies to the Commission (for the text see Chapter IV).

Cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions

(agenda item 5(c))

Documentation: E/ECE/1278

184. Delegations noted with appreciation the ECE's continued and strengthened cooperation with the European Community, OECD and with other international organizations. In view of the continuing changes in the region it was felt that the Commission should intensify its cooperation with these institutions and international organizations, particularly on activities designed to assist countries in transition. A number of delegations stressed that the Commission should now strive for a clearer definition of the division of labour between its activities and those of other international organizations and institutions.

185. The representative of the FAO stated that cooperation between the FAO and the ECE was not restricted to the work of the joint ECE/FAO Agriculture and Timber Division. The European Commission for Agriculture and the European Forestry Commission of the FAO drew up their work programmes in cooperation with the ECE Committees on Agriculture and Timber. He pointed out that countries in transition now urgently needed technical assistance in the field of agriculture and sustainable development. FAO's Technical Assistance Programme for Europe would be enlarged to accommodate the needs of its new member countries. The FAO attached great importance to the exchange of information and experience in technical progress in favour of rural populations.

186. Specific comments were made on cooperation and coordination of activities with international organizations and institutions under other items of the agenda and are reflected under the appropriate headings.

Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly including international cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear plant

(agenda item 5(d))

Documentation: E/ECE/1279, E/ECE/1281

187. Underlining the importance delegations attached to the Commission's activities in the field of sustainable development, many recorded their appreciation of the ECE's contribution to the UNCED process and called on the Commission to review and follow up specific recommendations contained in Agenda 21 as called for in Assembly resolution 47/191 on Institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. In this regard special attention was given to the proposal made by the delegation of Sweden as a follow-up to Agenda 21 to study the feasibility of convening a conference at the regional level on transport and the environment.

188. Several delegations extended their gratitude to all Governments, institutions and individuals who had provided assistance in accordance with the provisions of Assembly resolutions 46/150 and 47/165 on the Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster. They drew attention to the fact that assistance was still needed to overcome existing difficulties. ECE and other institutions were invited to intensify their assistance in these efforts.

189. In view of the pressing need for increased international cooperation and assistance to the economies in transition, a number of delegations expressed the view that the ECE activities in this area should be strengthened with resources decentralized from Headquarters pursuant to Assembly resolution 46/235 on the Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social and related fields.

190. Several delegations noted that the report of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the reform of the economic and social sectors had been presented in accordance with Assembly resolution 46/235. They pointed out that the recommendations stated that the need for strengthening the role and function of the regional commissions, on the basis of their complementarity with global programmes, was greater than ever. The comparative advantages of the regional commissions were underlined and their ability to offer a comprehensive framework for regional cooperation was emphasized. The European Community and its member States shared these views and expressed the intention of continuing their efforts to that effect.

191. Many delegations expressed their appreciation for the preparations and the successful outcome of the European Population Conference which had been jointly organized by the ECE, the Council of Europe and UNFPA in preparation for the International Conference on Population and Development to be held in Cairo in 1994 in accordance with Assembly resolution 47/176.

192. Drawing attention to the grave situation in its war-torn country the delegation of Croatia expressed the hope that the ECE would provide assistance as called for in Assembly resolution 47/166 on International cooperation and assistance to alleviate the consequences of war in Croatia and to facilitate its recovery.

193. Recalling the provisions of Assembly resolution 47/95 on the Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women as well as those of Council resolution 1990/12 and Assembly resolution 44/77 in which it was decided to convene the Fourth World Conference on Women, several delegations felt that the Commission should support the holding of a regional preparatory conference for the World Conference.

194. At its ninth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision J (48) on strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant (for the text see Chapter IV).

195. At its ninth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision K (48) on the ECE's contribution to the preparatory work for the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing 1995 (for the text see Chapter IV).

Commission's contribution to the United Nations global programmes and to the Organization's programmes designed to assist developing countries of other regions

(agenda item 5(e))

196. The Commission took note of document E/ECE/1280 on this subject. Specific comments were made on the Commission's contribution to the United Nations global programmes, especially its work in preparation for the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference for Women, the Second Conference on Human Settlements and the International Programmes of Assistance to address and mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster. These are reflected under the appropriate headings.

Recommendations of the Sessional Committee

197. At its seventh meeting the Commission heard a report by the Chairman of the Sessional Committee on the outcome of its deliberations on agenda item 5, sub-items (a)-(e), in particular the activities of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission, on the Commission's programme of work for 1993-1997.

198. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee informed the Commission that the participants had reviewed the activities and programmes of work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission. The discussions had been thorough and constructive, and interesting and comprehensive views on the various agenda items had been presented.

199. In accordance with the transitional structure of the forty-eighth session, the Sessional Committee had divided its work into two parts: a vertical review and a horizontal review. During the vertical review the Committee considered the reports of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission. It considered also the programme of work for 1993-1997, the revised terms of reference of several of the bodies, as well as all other subjects entrusted to the Sessional Committee by the Plenary.

200. Chairmen or other representatives of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies were also present and they informed the Committee about the work and the prospects of the respective bodies, and answered specific questions raised by the delegates.

201. On the basis of the discussions held, the Sessional Committee recommended to the Commission that it approve the reports of the ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies and Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission, including their programmes of work, their revised terms of reference where relevant, as well as the following specific points, which were considered by the Sessional Committee:

- That the Commission approve its programme of work for 1993-1994 and endorse in principle, subject to review at its forty-ninth session, its programme of work for 1993-1997.

- That the Commission invite all Principal Subsidiary Bodies to consider proposals contained in document ENVWA/R.69 which were relevant to their programmes of work, and to elaborate proposals for action to be considered by the Commission at its forty-ninth session.

- That the Commission request the Executive Secretary to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General and of the Commission for Sustainable Development the report on actions undertaken by the ECE with reference to the documents published on institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

- That the Commission approve the new dates for the fifty-sixth session of the Inland Transport Committee, namely from 17 to 21 January 1994, and the new dates for the thirteenth session of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation, namely from 31 October to 2 November 1994.

- That the Commission approve the undertaking of a feasibility study concerning the possible holding of a Conference on Transport and the Environment.

- That the Commission adopt the revised terms of reference of the Inland Transport Committee, the Committee on Human Settlements and the Working Party on Standardization Policies.

- That the Commission request the Executive Secretary to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General the work undertaken by the ECE on privatization in the context of economic restructuring, economic growth and sustainable development.

- That the Commission request the Executive Secretary to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General the activities of the ECE in the field of integration of the economies in transition into the world economy.

- That the Commission decide to allocate to the Committee on Agriculture for its two new joint FAO/ECE bodies six half days of meetings with interpretation instead of four, as requested in the Report of the Committee.

- That the Commission decide to recommend to the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission that the present Terms of Reference of the Codex Committee on Tropical Fresh Fruit and Vegetables remain unchanged.

- That the Commission decide to allocate to the Timber Committee additional meeting days for the two meetings as requested in the letter from its Chairman to the Chairman of the Commission.

- That the Commission invite the Committee on Human Settlements to examine Assembly resolution 47/180 with regard to the UN Conference on Human

Settlements (Habitat II) and to formulate recommendations relating to a possible contribution of the ECE to Habitat II.

- That the Commission decide to request the Executive Secretary to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General the work done in the socio-economic field by the ECE as a contribution to the Fourth World Social Summit.

202. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee thanked the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, the participants and all those who had contributed to the Committee's work.

203. The Chairman of the Commission expressed to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Sessional Committee and to all representatives who had taken part in the Committee's deliberations, the Commission's appreciation and thanks for the work which they had accomplished.

204. On the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its programme of work for 1993-1994 and endorsed in principle, subject to review at its forty-ninth session, its programme of work for 1994-1997 as set out in document E/ECE/1277/Add.1.

Other business
(agenda item 6)

205. The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the tentative date for the holding of the forty-ninth session of the Commission in Geneva was 18-25 April 1994. Pursuant to Council resolution 1894 (LVII), the provisional agenda for the forty-ninth session, which would be prepared in consultation with the Bureau of the Commission, would be along the same basic lines as this year's agenda. Members of the Commission would be informed of and involved in the shaping of the agenda through the Ad Hoc Informal Meetings of the Commission.

206. He referred to the apparent consensus reached among delegations to amend the Rules of Procedure of the ECE to reflect the will of member Governments to enlarge the Bureau of the Commission as a further measure to enhance its efficiency and strengthen the annual session.

207. In recalling the statement made by the Chairman on behalf of all delegations at the Special Session of the Commission on 5 October 1992 in welcoming the application of a number of newly independent States, the Executive Secretary noted the apparent consensus reached on a decision to amend the Commission's Terms of Reference to facilitate the admission of those applicant States.

208. At its ninth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision L (48) on preparation for and organization of the annual session (for the text see Chapter IV).

209. At its ninth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision M (48) on amendment of the Rules of Procedure of the ECE (for the text see Chapter IV).

210. At its ninth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision N (48) on recommendation to ECOSOC to amend the ECE Terms of Reference (for the text see Chapter IV).

Round Table: Integration of the countries in transition, including new member states, into the European economy: what can be expected of the ECE in key sectors?

211. On 23 April a Round Table was held on the above subject. The Chairman of the Commission presided over the Round Table at which the speakers were: Mr. Mladen Vredis (Croatia), Member of Parliament, former Vice-President of the Government responsible for Economic Affairs; Mr. Andrzej Olechowski (Poland), Adviser on Economic Affairs to the State President, former Minister of Finance, former President of the Polish National Bank; Mr. Peter Mertus (Slovakia), Director General of the Slovak Agency for Investment and Privatization; Mr. Davorin Kracun (Slovenia), Minister for Economic Affairs and Development, Vice-President of the Government of Slovenia, Professor of Economics, University of Maribor; and Mr. Franz Blankart (Switzerland), Secretary of State, Department of Economic Affairs.

212. The proceedings of the Round Table will be compiled and made available by the secretariat.

Project presentation

213. The secretariat arranged a presentation of selected projects illustrating ECE activities in the field of trade facilitation (including EDIFACT), transport infrastructure (including TEM and TER), population (particularly the recent European Population Conference) and Energy Efficiency 2000.

Adoption of decisions

214. At its eighth meeting the Commission adopted thirteen decisions. It also recalled the decision which it had adopted at its second meeting (see para. 23). The full texts of all decisions adopted are contained in Chapter IV.

215. In connection with the draft decision on the ECE's contribution to the preparatory work for the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing 1995, the Executive Secretary made a statement on financial implications of the decision to the effect that, as had been indicated to member Governments earlier, the preparatory meeting called for could not be organized within existing resources of ECE. The informal estimates of such a meeting provided by the secretariat did not take into account the holding of the meeting at a high level and with a significant NGO participation. He also stated his understanding that the report called for in operative paragraph 8 was intended to be that of the meeting, since he could not substitute himself for member Governments. He agreed to keep member Governments informed about preparations for the preparatory meeting, especially the resource question, at the Ad Hoc Informal Meetings of the Commission. The draft decision was adopted as amended, taking into account the statement of the Executive Secretary.

216. The delegation of the United States suggested that it would be useful for member States also to consider, for possible future reform, the subject of the preparation of draft decisions for annual sessions. It proposed that, during the coming year, representatives of the member States in Geneva be invited to meet informally and, in collaboration with the secretariat, to consider how to streamline and improve the process of the preparation of draft decisions. It indicated that experts at Permanent Missions might suggest guidelines for topics appropriate in draft decisions and whether it would be preferable for draft decisions normally to originate in the Principal Subsidiary Bodies. Ways might also be found to reduce the number of decisions or the length of the texts. It expressed the view that it would be helpful in this process for member States to understand clearly the significance of Commission decisions. It proposed that, after the experts had informally studied the matter, their conclusions be reported to the Commission, meeting in ad hoc informal session. Should the Commission conclude that specific reforms of the process for preparing decisions should be implemented, such implementation could take place at the forty-ninth or fiftieth session of the Commission. It proposed that the Commission agree to encourage the member States to determine how the preparation of decisions might be streamlined and made more efficient. In responding to the proposal, the Chairman took careful note and agreed to raise the matter at the next Ad Hoc Informal Meeting of the Commission.

Annual Report of the Commission
(agenda item 8)

217. At its ninth meeting, on 27 April 1993, the Commission adopted its report covering the period from 16 April 1992 to 27 April 1993.

CHAPTER IV

DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

A (48) RECOMMENDATION TO ECOSOC FOR NON-PARTICIPATION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA (SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO) IN THE WORK OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

adopted by the Commission on 20 April 1993
by 34 votes for, 2 against and 2 abstentions

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 47/1,

Recommends to ECOSOC that it decide that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) shall not participate in the work of the UN Economic Commission for Europe as long as the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) shall not participate in the work of the United Nations General Assembly.

2nd meeting
20 April 1993
(see para. 23 above)

B (48) THE COMMISSION'S ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO ASSIST COUNTRIES OF THE REGION IN TRANSITION TO A MARKET ECONOMY AND THEIR INTEGRATION WITH THE EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL ECONOMY

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 47/187 on Integration of the economies in transition in the world economy and ECE resolution 1 (1992-S) and confirming the importance of a speedy and effective implementation of the ECE activities designed to assist the countries in transition and the need to explore ways and means of releasing and obtaining adequate resources for this programme,

Reaffirming the valuable role of the ECE in assisting the countries in transition particularly through the programme of workshops and noting the progress made and experience gained in the implementation of the provisions of its decisions O (45), D (45), B (46) and D (47),

Having examined the Executive Secretary's report (E/ECE/1272) on the activities of subsidiary bodies and the secretariat, particularly the programme of workshops and other forms of assistance to countries in transition as well as the follow-up action taken in implementation of its decision D (47),

Mindful of the growing difficulties which the countries in transition face in financing the organization of and their experts' participation in the workshops, symposia and other similar informal activities and conscious of the need to ensure that all ECE member states, particularly the new ones, can participate fully and effectively in its work,

Taking into consideration the limited resources available in the regular budget of the Commission for these purposes, and the usefulness in this regard of the regular informal meetings organized by the secretariat on utilization of resources,

Concerned by the level of socio-economic development in the countries in transition and aware of the necessity to enhance cooperation in the ECE region with a view to achieving dynamic economic development in the ECE region, in particular in the countries in transition,

Noting the contributions already made and continuing under the auspices of the G-24, the European Community, and various international organizations to assist countries in transition,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 47/171 on privatization in the context of economic restructuring, economic growth and sustainable development,

1. Takes note of the establishment of the UN/ECE Trust Fund for assistance to countries in transition to support adequately the activities of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies in assisting countries in transition to a market economy;

2. Invites Governments of the member countries, the European Community, relevant international institutions and private donors to examine inter alia the possibility of providing contributions to the UN/ECE Trust Fund, to finance workshops, symposia and other similar informal activities on transition issues organized under ECE auspices;

3. Invites its Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the Executive Secretary to coordinate their activities to provide expertise and assist countries in transition with the Commission of the European Communities and relevant organizations, in particular with OECD, EBRD, UNDP, UNCTAD, the World Bank with a view to avoiding duplication of efforts;

4. Stresses the importance of continuing efforts which must take account of the prevailing political and economic conditions, on the part of all industrialized countries to improve access for products, including processed goods, in particular from countries in transition to international markets, consistent with bilateral and multilateral agreements, and of the facilitation of private investment, which strengthen the economic potential of countries in transition and reinforce structural reform;

5. Also invites the Executive Secretary in the light of the discussion of his initial report (E/ECE/1272) and in cooperation with organizers and other participants to continue to report to Ad Hoc Informal Meetings of the Commission with a view to preparing a thorough evaluation and specific recommendations concerning the organization and methodology of future

workshops to be submitted at the latest for the next annual session of the Commission;

6. Also invites the Executive Secretary in the light of General Assembly resolutions 47/171 and 47/187 on integration of the economies in transition into the world economy and privatization in the context of economic growth and sustainable development to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General related work under way in the ECE as a contribution to his reports to the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly on the role of the UN system in addressing the problems facing the economies in transition, including the difficulties encountered in their integration into the world economy as well as on recommendations for action by the UN system in support of privatization in the context of economic growth and sustainable development,

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to present proposals on diversification of forms and methods of the ECE activities designed to assist countries in transition taking into account the discussion on the above-mentioned reports at the forty-eighth General Assembly;

8. Also requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of this decision.

9th meeting
26 April 1993
(see para. 83 above)

C (48) ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN IN THE LIGHT OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Reaffirming its decision G(47) and its prior decisions adopted by the Commission on this subject,

Recognizing that the strengthening of economic cooperation among member States of the ECE also contributes to promoting stability in the Mediterranean region and underlining the importance of economic cooperation among the countries in the Mediterranean as a factor having a positive impact on the whole of the ECE region,

Conscious of the need to develop further economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Helsinki Document 1992 - "The Challenges of Change", and the role that the ECE should play in implementing these provisions;

Welcoming the Helsinki Summit Declaration 1992 and particularly the Decision on the Mediterranean by which the Participating States recognized that the changes which have taken place in Europe are relevant to the Mediterranean region and that economic, social, political and security developments in that region can have a bearing on Europe, Bearing in mind that several Commission member States in the Mediterranean are developing from an economic point of view,

1. Takes note of the Executive-Secretary's report E/ECE/1273 on Activities of the ECE to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Helsinki Document 1992, and particularly the relevant part of the report pertaining to the Mediterranean;

2. Stresses the need for continued efforts by ECE for the protection and amelioration of the Mediterranean ecosystem as referred to in the report of the CSCE Meeting on the Mediterranean held in Palma de Mallorca, in 1990, and calls upon the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-ninth session of the ECE on such activities in this area;

3. Further calls upon the Executive Secretary to continue to undertake action-oriented studies, including specific analysis of existing economic cooperation between ECE Mediterranean countries, to identify effective means of enhancing economic cooperation in the Mediterranean, both in the priority and non-priority areas of the ECE, taking into account the limits of available resources and the independent nature of that analysis, for consideration by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the Working Parties of the Commission in their programmes of work;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to cooperate with the Executive Secretaries of the other relevant United Nations regional commissions as well as other United Nations bodies concerned and to pursue his contacts with the other Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, with a view to increasing interregional cooperation on the subjects within the competence of the ECE and which are of common interest to the Mediterranean countries;

5. Expresses satisfaction with the activities carried out by the Transport Study Centre for the Eastern Mediterranean in Volos (Greece), the Transport Study Centre for the Western Mediterranean in Barcelona (Spain) and the Transport Training Centre in Istanbul (Turkey) which are of direct interest to the countries of the Mediterranean region and invites these centres to continue to contribute to the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee;

6. Recalls further as a follow-up to Council decision 1991/74, that the ECE and ECA continue their joint work on the evaluation of studies made for the construction of the Europe-Africa permanent link across the Strait of Gibraltar, which is of direct interest to the countries of the Mediterranean;

7. Welcomes the results and conclusions of the Seminar for the Statistical Offices of the Mediterranean Countries held in Palermo (Italy) from 13 to 15 October 1992, which addressed areas of cooperation between Mediterranean countries on environment, tourism and immigration statistics, and which recommended that they assess their experiences with a view to extending cooperation in the Mediterranean area at a seminar to be held not later than 1995;

8. Takes note of the Report of the seventeenth Meeting of Experts on Human Settlements Problems in Southern Europe, held in Seville (Spain) from 21 to 23 October 1992 on "Urban design and architecture with respect to Mediterranean climate and sustainable development", and underlines the need for appropriate follow-up activities in this area;

9. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to facilitate consultations regarding the Mediterranean Technical Assistance Programme (METAP) and the Mediterranean Special Programme of Action (MEDSPA) with a view to strengthening further the environmental management and development in the Mediterranean region;

10. Welcomes the decision of the CSCE to convene in Malta between 17 and 21 May 1993, a Seminar on the Mediterranean to consider the following topics: the environment (follow-up to the results of the Palma Meeting, identification of possible areas of cooperation), demographic trends and migration (social and economic background to these issues), and practical ways of cooperation between the non-participating Mediterranean States and the CSCE in the light of the Helsinki Document;

11. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-ninth session on the implementation of this decision.

9th meeting
26 April 1993
(see para. 89 above)

D (48) THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION AND ITS FUTURE ACTIVITIES

The Economic Commission for Europe

Recalling its resolution 1 (1992-S), in particular paragraph 2, sub-paragraphs A and B, and conscious of the important role of the ECE as an instrument for the implementation of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level,

Emphasizing the importance of the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, the Helsinki Document 1992 "The challenges of change" and the documents of other relevant meetings of the CSCE in particular the documents of the Bonn Conference on Economic Cooperation, and having in mind that these documents also contain recommendations directed towards the future work of the Commission,

Taking note of the Summary Document prepared by the secretariat for the Ad hoc Informal Meetings in January and March 1993, the Report of the Chairman of the Commission on his consultations with the bureaux of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies in accordance with decision B (46), paragraph 4, and the Executive Secretary's note on the programme of work for 1993-1997 (E/ECE/1277 and Add.1) and taking into account decision P (45) taken by its forty-fifth resumed annual session and the Medium-Term Plan for the period 1992-1997 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly during its forty-seventh session (A/47/6/Rev.1), Recalling its mandate to initiate and participate in measures for facilitating concerted action for economic reconstruction of Europe, and appealing to other relevant international economic bodies, in a position to do so, to examine their possible contribution to that effect,

1. Reaffirms its determination to implement decisions O (45) and P (45) of the forty-fifth resumed session and requests its subsidiary bodies to carry out without delay the provisions of decision O (45) when reviewing and carrying out their programmes of work and to report on the action taken to the forty-ninth session of the Commission;

2. Requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their work the pertinent provisions of the relevant CSCE documents which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the Economic Commission for Europe and invites them to contribute in the appropriate manner to the practical follow-up of the CSCE Economic Forum held in Prague from 16-18 March 1993 on matters where the ECE has competence and can provide expertise and experience and which at the same time avoid possible duplication with activities undertaken by other international organizations;

3. Approves its programme of work for 1993-1994 and endorses, in principle, subject to review at its forty-ninth session, its programme of work for 1993-1997;

4. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's note (E/ECE/1279) on the implications of resolutions of the General Assembly and of ECOSOC for the work of the UN/ECE, including Assembly resolution 47/166 on international cooperation and assistance to alleviate the consequences of war in Croatia and to facilitate its recovery, requests the Executive Secretary to bring the work of the Commission to the attention of the Secretary General to assist him in the preparation of the reports which he is required to submit to the Assembly and invites its subsidiary bodies to consider possible work within their competence and ongoing activities which could contribute to the implementation of General Assembly resolutions and to study possible action to contribute to global programmes of the United Nations including forthcoming or recent global Conferences or international years;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to implement the provisions and recommendations contained in its decisions O (45) and P (45) where the work of the secretariat is concerned and to report to the forty-ninth session of the Commission;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present decision as well as other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned and requests them to take these into account in their work and when reviewing their respective programmes.

9th meeting
26 April 1993
(see para. 91 above)

E (48) THE PROVISION OF ADEQUATE RESOURCES FOR THE SERVICING OF THE PRIORITY AND OTHER SECTORS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling decisions O (45), P (45), B (47) and resolution 1 (1992-S),

Conscious that the effective and efficient management of the ECE, like that of other UN organizations, depends upon the reliable provision of resources, both financial and human, including skilled professionals,

Aware that the increased membership, which has risen from 34 in 1990 to 45 at present, has expanded the ECE's activities and has imposed extra demands on its tightly-stretched resources,

Noting that unfilled vacancies have required the secretariat to discharge its functions with far fewer professional staff than one year ago,

Concerned that documents for meetings and follow-up are being unduly delayed, often preventing member States from preparing properly for meetings,

Concerned that unfilled vacancies at the professional level in the priority sectors and other sectors are seriously impeding both technical and practical work of importance to the member States, as well as the ability of the secretariat to respond to the growing needs of countries in transition,

Concerned that the continuing procedural difficulties in recruiting qualified personnel on a timely basis detract from the effective management and optimal utilization of valuable budgeted resources deployed throughout the ECE secretariat,

Noting that lack of delegated authority and its negative effects on the ECE run counter to the principle of decentralization and strengthening of the regional commissions;

Mindful of the decisions of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General which affect recruitment procedures throughout the United Nations system,

1. Reaffirms the importance attached by member States to urgent action to provide resources necessary to maintain the ECE's efficiency and effectiveness;

2. Invites the Executive Secretary regularly to provide information on the deployment of resources both under the regular budget and from extra-budgetary contributions to Permanent Missions in Geneva and to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to bring this decision to the attention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to report on action taken at the next Ad Hoc Informal Meeting of the Commission.

9th meeting
26 April 1993
(see para. 92 above)

F (48) COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Conscious of the importance of sustainable development for the global community as a whole and the Commission's members in particular,

Stressing the multidisciplinary nature of sustainable development, and the fact that a comprehensive view of the Commission's work is therefore required,

Taking note of the decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), in particular Agenda 21 and Assembly resolution 47/191 on institutional arrangements to follow-up UNCED, in particular paragraphs 27 and 28 relating to the regional commissions,

Recalling its own decisions O (45), E (46) and E (47) on cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development,

Also taking note of the decisions of the sixth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems based on the inventory made by the ECE secretariat concerning implications at regional level of the outcome of the UNCED and in particular of Agenda 21 and of the tenth session of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, and welcoming the arrangements made by the Senior Advisers for strengthening their role in the new European context,

Reaffirming that in accordance with its own decisions E (46) and E (47) cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development is one of the Commission's priorities, with a special regard to the development of regional policies, legal instruments and preventive measures,

Taking note with satisfaction of the progress made in strengthening coordination and cooperation with the EC and organizations and institutions that are active in the field of sustainable development in the region, such as, inter alia, UNEP, Council of Europe, CSCE, and in particular the OECD; and stressing the necessity to extend such coordination and streamlining in order to ensure optimal use of existing resources and to respond better to the specific needs of the countries in transition,

1. Calls upon all its Subsidiary Bodies to promote sustainable development as one of the guiding principles for all their relevant activities and to take fully into account relevant conclusions and recommendations

contained in the documents of UNCED, in particular Agenda 21, in their programmes of work, and to elaborate action proposals as appropriate;

2. Calls on all ECE member States and the European Community to consider, if they have not already done so, ratification of or accession to, as appropriate, the following ECE conventions:

- the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context,
- the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents,
- the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes;

3. Encourages the Senior Advisers to review implementation and verification measures for the ECE environmental conventions, taking into account the negotiating history of each convention and the specific problems of the countries in transition for presentation to the signatories or parties to these conventions;

4. Takes note with satisfaction of the progress accomplished in the implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution; invites all member States and the EC to expedite procedures in order to sign, ratify or accede to the Protocol on Volatile Organic Compounds; and encourages them to take an active part in the ongoing negotiations for the elaboration of a second Protocol for a further reduction of sulphur emissions after 1993;

5. Welcomes the organization by Switzerland of the Conference on "Environment for Europe", to be held in Lucerne, 28 to 30 April 1993, and trusts that the Conference will provide guidance to ECE in its activities in the field of environment and sustainable development in particular for the elaboration of a long-term Environmental Programme for Europe, taking into account the recommendations by the sixth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems and the tenth session of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution;

6. Invites the secretariat to prepare, in accordance with the provisions of Assembly resolution 47/191 on institutional arrangements to follow up UNCED, in particular paragraphs 27 and 28 relating to the regional commissions, a report on the work of the ECE to implement Agenda 21, for consideration by the Senior Advisers (or by the Commission at its forty-ninth session), before transmission to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development in 1993, or at the latest in 1994;

7. Underlines the need to extend, on the basis of an evaluation of three pilot reviews, the system of environmental performance reviews developed by OECD to other ECE countries; and endorses the proposal of the Senior Advisers that their role in that respect be considered in detail, with the assistance of the secretariat and in the light of the outcome of the Lucerne Ministerial Conference, at the consultations of heads of delegation to be convened in autumn 1993;

8. Encourages the Senior Advisers to extend the use of workshops, as a cost effective and flexible form of cooperation, focusing on the specific needs of countries in transition in know-how and expert advice;

9. Accepts the invitation contained in UNCED Agenda 21 to study the feasibility of organizing a regional conference on transport and the environment and requests the Executive Secretary to carry out such a study in cooperation with member States, the European Community and interested organizations, making full use of the expertise and taking into account the views of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned, especially the Inland Transport Committee, the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems and the Committee on Energy, and to report the results of the study to the Commission well in advance of the forty-ninth session in order to prepare its further decisions on the matter;

10. Requests the secretariat to lend all due support in the elaboration of the proposals mentioned above and stresses that, with a view to the Commission's limited resources, no new institutions shall be created to this end;

11. Notes the good progress accomplished in the framework of the Energy Efficiency 2000 Project, in particular the establishment of Energy Efficiency Demonstration Zones, and encourages the further enhancement of trade and cooperation in energy-efficient, environmentally sound technology and management practices, especially between countries in transition;

12. Requests the Executive Secretary to assure that, through the effective and efficient use of available staff and financial resources, the secretariat shall be able to concentrate on the priorities set by the Commission, and urges the Secretary-General of the United Nations to consider granting an exception to the recruitment freeze including the reprogramming of personnel and/or resources to priority areas within the ECE, so that the necessary secretariat resources be provided to the ECE in the field of environment and sustainable development;

13. Finally requests the Executive Secretary to report at the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the action he will have taken to implement this decision.

9th meeting
26 April 1993
(see para. 101 above)

G (48) COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TRANSPORT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions O (45), F (46), B (47), F (47) and G (47),

Reiterating the high priority of transport questions,

Conscious of the problems of countries in transition in developing market economy mechanisms in the field of transport, Stressing consequently the importance of an efficient network of transport infrastructures for the development of the economies of countries in transition,

Reiterating the need to ensure close cooperation with the European Community and organizations dealing with transport questions with a view to achieving a coherent European Transport Concept and to avoid duplication of work and waste of resources,

Underlining its conviction that the ECE has a prominent role in regional transport cooperation,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report and the conclusions of the fifty-fifth session of the Inland Transport Committee;

2. Welcomes all pertinent contributions of the Committee to the thorough preparation of the second European Transport Conference;

3. Encourages the secretariat to elaborate elements for a European Transport Charter which reflect the important areas of the work of the ECE;

4. Accepts the invitation contained in UNCED Agenda 21 to study the feasibility of organizing a regional conference on transport and the environment and requests the Executive Secretary to carry out such a study in cooperation with member States, the European Community and interested organizations, making full use of the expertise and taking into account the views of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned, especially the Inland Transport Committee, the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems and the Committee on Energy, and to report the results of the study to the Commission well in advance of the forty-ninth session in order to prepare its further decisions on the matter;

5. Endorses the decision of the Inland Transport Committee to stage a European Road Safety Week in 1995;

6. Supports the work undertaken to update the Provisions concerning the Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN), taking note of the view of the Inland Transport Committee that harmonization is necessary with the regulations for the Carriage of Dangerous Substances on the Rhine (ADNR) and urges the need for their completion;

7. Welcomes the increasing number of Contracting Parties to ECE Agreements and Conventions and invites Governments which have not yet acceded to those, especially if they are not yet in force, to examine possibilities for doing so;

8. Underlines the importance of further development and early completion of joint road and rail infrastructure projects (TEM and TER and others) and welcomes the achievements made so far;

9. Endorses Resolution No. 240 of the Inland Transport Committee on the development of combined transport on inland waterways and encourages it to turn it into a legally binding instrument;

10. Requests member Governments to increase their efforts to identify bottlenecks and missing links in international infrastructure networks and to propose solutions in the framework of the relevant ECE Agreements in order to solve these problems;

11. Invites the Inland Transport Committee to consider further a possible role of the ECE for the implementation of a coherent system of transport infrastructure networks in Europe;

12. Supports the ongoing work on the revision of the 1958 Agreement Concerning the Adoption of Uniform Conditions of Approval and Reciprocal Recognition of Approval for Motor Vehicle Equipment and Parts and expresses the view that this revision should be finalized as soon as possible;

13. Welcomes the completion of the revision of the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals and the 1971 European Agreement supplementing it;

14. Takes note of the results of the Global Seminar on the Impact of Increasing Dimensions of Loading Units on Combined Transport and endorses the conclusions drawn by the Inland Transport Committee in that respect especially the encouragement of the secretariat and the Working Group on Combined Transport to monitor further developments;

15. Underlines the necessity for further harmonization of international regulations for the transport of dangerous goods;

16. Endorses the revised Terms of Reference adopted by the Inland Transport Committee for its future work;

17. Agrees to the proposal of the Inland Transport Committee to hold its next session in the middle of January to ensure the submission of its report to the last Ad Hoc Informal Meeting prior to the Annual Session of the Commission;

18. Stresses the necessity immediately to appoint professionals sufficiently qualified and experienced to fill the vacant posts in the sector of transport of dangerous goods as well as in other transport sectors and to maintain in the Transport Division the number and level of professional and other staff and requests the Executive Secretary to keep the Inland Transport Committee regularly informed of the situation in that field;

19. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of this decision.

9th meeting
26 April 1993
(see para. 108 above)

H (48) COOPERATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Emphasizing the importance attached to issues of sustainable development and the increased environmental performance of the industry,

Referring to relevant chapters of UNCED Agenda 21, in particular its chapter 30, concerning the promotion of cleaner production and responsible entrepreneurship in order to achieve sustainable industrial development,

Taking into account Commission decision F (48) on Cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development,

1. Reaffirms its determination to maintain the concept of sustainable development as a guiding principle for UN/ECE activities;

2. Takes note with interest of the results and Conclusions adopted by the High-level Meeting on Cooperation and Sustainable Development in the Chemical Industry (Warsaw, 10-12 March 1992) organized in the framework of the Commission, in cooperation with the European Chemical Industry Council and with the support of the Commission of the European Communities;

3. Welcomes the joint efforts of Governments, private industry and international organizations in promoting sustainability in the development of the chemical industry, an important sector of economies in the ECE region, and invites all partners concerned to contribute further to this process;

4. Stresses the importance of the follow-up activities to the High-level Meeting entitled "Chemical Industry - Sustainable Economic and Ecological Development CHEMISEED" as defined by the Working Party on the Chemical Industry, and further encourages this body to continue its work on cooperation aimed at achieving sustainable development in the chemical industry in accordance with its priorities;

5. Invites the Working Party on the Chemical Industry to cooperate further with the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission in order to contribute to the process of achieving sustainable development in the ECE region;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of this decision.

9th meeting
26 April 1993
(see para. 139 above)

I (48) REPORTING FROM THE SUBSIDIARY BODIES TO THE COMMISSION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Stressing the need to ensure an adequate information flow between the Commission and its Subsidiary Bodies,

Underlining the need to enhance the comparability of information in order to address properly cross sectoral issues,

Seeking to strengthen the efficiency of the Commission and its Subsidiary Bodies,

1. Decides that its Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission (later called PSBs) shall meet between the session of the Commission and 31 December;

2. Requests the secretariat to make available the reports of the PSBs at least one week before the Ad Hoc Informal Meeting in January;

3. Requests its PSBs to include in their reports information relating to the items mentioned in Annex 1, to be considered during the sessions of the PSBs;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare, in consultation with the Bureaux of the PSBs, a Summary Document for the Ad Hoc Informal Meeting in January which will highlight the major results of and difficulties encountered by the PSBs;

5. Invites the Executive Secretary to include also in the Summary Document any significant developments and policy matters not covered in the reports of the PSBs and likely to require discussion at the annual session;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to update, whenever necessary, the Summary Document for the Ad Hoc Informal Meeting to be held in March;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the implementation of the present decision;

8. Invites the Ad Hoc Informal Meetings of the Commission to review periodically the implementation of this decision in order to propose, whenever necessary, adaptations to the changing needs of the Commission.

Annex 1

Information to be considered during the sessions of the PSBs and included in their reports to the Commission:

A. (i) Possible draft decisions and/or recommendations to be discussed and possibly adopted by the Commission at its next session.

(ii) Implementation of decisions adopted by the Commission, including application of resolutions adopted by the ECOSOC and the General Assembly (inputs made to global programmes and interregional cooperation).

(iii) Possible amendments to the mandate of the PSB, for discussion and, possibly, adoption by the Commission.

(iv) Programme of work

- implementation of the programme of work including difficulties encountered and proposals to streamline activities, to enhance the efficiency of the Subsidiary Body and to assist the economies in transition.

- resource information and proposals to ensure a more efficient use of the available resources.

- programme of work and calendar of meetings for the coming year(s).

(v) Cooperation

- cooperation with other ECE Subsidiary Bodies active in other but related fields of activity and suggestions for the improvement of such cooperation.

- cooperation with other relevant organizations and institutions, and suggestions for the improvement of such cooperation.

(vi) Evaluation of the publications (in cooperation with the Conference of European Statisticians).

B. Items i), iii) of paragraph A, and possibly other items on which a decision is to be taken or instructions to be given by the Commission are to be clearly highlighted in a box on the first page of the report, possibly with a reference to the parts of the report concerned.

9th meeting
26 April 1993
(see para. 183 above)

J (48) STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND COORDINATION OF EFFORTS TO STUDY, MITIGATE AND MINIMIZE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE ACCIDENT AT THE CHERNOBYL NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 47/165 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/38 on international cooperation and coordination of efforts to mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, Reaffirming its decision C (46) of 7 April 1991,

Taking note with appreciation of the efforts taken in this area by Member States and by organizations, bodies and programmes of the United Nations system, and encouraging further contributions,

Expressing profound concern about the persisting effects of the consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe on the lives and health of people, especially children in the affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine and some other countries and aware of the need to enhance international cooperation, to mitigate and minimize the radiological, health, socio-economic, psychological and environmental consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe, as well as its long-term effects, including those resulting from transboundary contamination,

1. Takes note of the activities of the Timber Committee, Committee on Agriculture and the Conference of European Statisticians relating to the Chernobyl disaster;

2. Recognizes the importance of continuing the activities of the Commission related to assistance to the countries affected by the Chernobyl accident;

3. Calls upon the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, which due to their respective spheres of competence could contribute to this work, to consider their possible participation in it taking into account the activities of other international organizations, WHO and IAEA in particular, to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster taking into account the suggestions made by the Governments of the countries affected by the Chernobyl accident at the forty-eighth session of the Commission;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to study the possibility of providing in cooperation with other international organizations and programmes expertise on projects aimed at minimizing the consequences of the Chernobyl accident;

5. Invites member countries to continue their participation in the Commission's activities seeking to alleviate the consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to contribute to the preparation by the Secretary-General of the analytical review of the United Nations activities to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, mentioned in paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 47/165, and to report to the Commission at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of this decision.

9th meeting
26 April 1993
(see para. 194 above)

K (48) THE ECE'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, BEIJING 1995

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985,

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council on issues related to women since its resolution 1987/18 of 26 May 1987, especially resolution 1990/12 where the Council recommends that a World Conference on Women should be held in 1995,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 46/98 on the Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women emphasizing particularly equality, development and peace and requesting the Commission on the Status of Women to chose a venue for the fourth World Conference on Women,

Recalling further resolution 36/8 adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women and General Assembly resolution 47/95 confirming the importance of regional preparations to take place under the auspices of the corresponding regional commissions,

Keeping in mind the ECE's role in preparing the world conferences on women in 1980 and 1985, noting in particular ECE decisions B (33), N (34), H (35), D (38), J (39) and J (40),

1. Decides to convene, at a high level, a European regional preparatory meeting for the fourth World Conference on Women by the end of 1994 at the Vienna International Centre, and appreciates the generous offer made by the Government of Austria in this regard;

2. Invites Governments of the region and relevant international organizations and institutions to contribute actively to the preparation of such a meeting;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to invite NGOs in ECE member States having consultative status with ECOSOC and, in consultation with member States, NGOs in ECE member States without consultative status to participate in the European regional preparatory meeting, and to prepare a list of such NGOs eligible to participate in the World Conference, taking into account the formula of the Secretary-General of the Conference to define eligibility for such participation referred to in resolution E/CN.6/1993/L.17, and present this list to the forty-ninth session of the Commission;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to seek cooperation and coordination with other regional preparatory initiatives in order to ensure the best possible outcome and avoid duplication of work;

5. Decides that the agenda for the preparatory meeting shall include inter alia a review and appraisal of the implementation at the regional level of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the year 2000, and an elaboration of regional input to the Platform of Action, emphasizing the role of women in the economy, in particular in countries in transition;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to organize the high level regional preparatory meeting, provided that adequate financing, in cash and in kind, is made available, bearing in mind that resources may in part be made available from the United Nations General Assembly to the Commission for its preparations for the fourth World Conference on Women; and invites ECE member States to consider contributing adequate funding to this end, and asks the Executive Secretary to report as soon as possible to the Ad Hoc Informal Meeting of the Commission;

7. Further requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision.

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit a report resulting from the preparatory meeting which will serve as the region's contribution to the fourth World Conference on Women, at the fiftieth session of the Commission, preferably including recommendations in the form of a European Plan of Action.

9th meeting
26 April 1993
(see para. 195 above)

L (48) PREPARATION FOR AND ORGANIZATION OF THE ANNUAL SESSION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Mindful of its role to review the economic situation and major developments in the region, to evaluate the activities of its subsidiary bodies, to formulate policy regarding future ECE activities and to ensure the coordination of its work and the rational use of its resources,

Stressing the need to ensure an adequate information flow between the Commission and its Subsidiary Bodies,

Underlining the necessity of a proper preparation of the annual session of the Commission,

Seeking to strengthen the efficiency of the Commission and its Subsidiary Bodies,

1. Decides that its annual session will be composed of a "Policy Segment" and a "Programme and Coordination Segment";

2. Decides that the "Policy Segment" of its annual session will perform the same tasks as the former Plenary session;

3. Decides that the "Programme and Coordination Segment" of its annual session will replace the former Sessional Committee and follow the guidelines contained in Annex 1;

4. Decides, in accordance with decision P (45), to make use in the preparation of its annual session of the Ad Hoc Informal Meetings to be held in January and March, of the "Report of the Chairman" on his consultations with the Bureaux of the PSBs, and of the "Summary Document" prepared by the secretariat. 2/

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to make available to the member Governments and their Permanent Representatives in Geneva the reports of the Ad Hoc Informal Meetings of January and March of each year as working documents for the Annual Sessions of the Commission;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to make available to the member Governments and their Permanent Representatives in Geneva the Final Report of the consultations held in accordance with decision B (47), paragraph 4, as well as the Summary Document referred to in decision I (48), as working documents for the Annual Sessions of the Commission;

7. Decides that this decision supersedes paragraph 9 of resolution 5 (XXIV) and complements decision P (45).

Annex 1

Guidelines for the "Programme and Coordination Segment"

- The "Programme and Coordination Segment" will be chaired by one of the Vice-Chairpersons, designated by the Bureau of the Commission, who will report on the results of the discussion during the "Policy Segment".

- The Commission should review the work of the Commission and its PSBs on the basis of their reports. The review should also take account of the final report of consultations during the year between the Chairperson of the Commission and the Bureaux of the PSBs, which might, in due course, be extended to include representatives of the Member States, if they so wish. The statements by delegates and Bureaux representatives, as well as exchange of views at Ad Hoc Informal Meetings, should also be taken into account.

- The "Programme and Coordination Segment" will also examine any other question which could be transmitted to it by the "Policy Segment".

2/ See the "Report of the Working Group on the Reorganization of the Annual Session of the Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE)" (ECE/AC.20/93(1)/2), in particular its point 3, pp.2-6.

9th meeting
26 April 1993
(see para. 208 above)

M (48) AMENDMENT OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ECE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

In accordance with paragraph 15 of its Terms of Reference and its Rule of Procedure No. 55,

Stressing the recent increase of its membership as well as the importance of the political and economic reforms taking place in member countries of the Economic Commission for Europe,

Underlining the need for the increased integration of economies in transition, including newly independent States, into the international economic and financial system,

Seeking to strengthen the efficiency of the Commission and its Subsidiary Bodies,

1. Decides to amend its Rules of Procedure as mentioned in Annex 1;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to inform immediately the Economic and Social Council of this decision.

Annex 1

Amendments to the UN/ECE's Rules of Procedure

Rule 1

(Sessions of the Commission shall be held: ...)

(d) On such other occasions as the Chairperson, in consultation with the Vice-Chairpersons and the Executive Secretary, deems necessary.

Rule 2

Sessions shall ordinarily be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG). The Commission may, with the concurrence of the Secretary-General, decide to hold a particular session elsewhere.

Rule 5

The provisional agenda for each session shall be drawn up by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Bureau of the Commission.

Rule 6

(The provisional agenda for any session shall include: ...)

(e) Any other items which the Chairperson or the Executive Secretary sees fit to include.

Rule 12

The Chairperson and the Vice-Chairpersons shall examine the credentials and report upon them to the Commission.

Rule 13

The Commission shall, at its first meeting of each year, elect from among its representatives a Chairperson and three Vice-Chairpersons, who shall hold office until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election. The Commission may, however, decide to elect the officers for its next session at its last meeting.

Rule 14

If the Chairperson is absent from a meeting, or any part thereof, one of the Vice-Chairpersons, designated by the Chairperson, shall preside.

Rule 15

If the Chairperson ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he/she can no longer hold office, one of the Vice-Chairpersons, designated by the Commission, shall become Chairperson for the unexpired portion of the term. In that case, or if one of the Vice-Chairpersons ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he/she can no longer hold office, the Commission shall elect another Vice-Chairperson for the unexpired portion of the term.

Rule 16

The Vice-Chairperson acting as Chairperson shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairperson.

Rule 17

The Chairperson or the Vice-Chairperson acting as Chairperson shall participate in the meetings of the Commission as such and not as the representative of the member by whom he/she was accredited. The Commission shall admit an alternate representative to represent that member in the meetings of the Commission and to exercise its right to vote.

Rule 18

The Executive Secretary shall act in that capacity at all meetings of the Commission and of its Subsidiary Bodies. He/She may appoint another member of the staff to take his/her place at any meeting.

Rule 20

The Executive Secretary shall direct the staff provided by the Secretary-General and required by the Commission, and its Subsidiary Bodies.

Rule 24

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him/her elsewhere by these rules, the Chairperson shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Commission, shall direct the discussion, ensure the observance of these rules, and shall accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote, and announce decisions. The Chairperson may also call a speaker to order if his/her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Rule 25

During the discussion of any matter a representative may raise a point of order. In this case the Chairperson shall immediately state his/her ruling. If it is challenged, the Chairperson shall forthwith submit his/her ruling to the Commission for decision and it shall stand unless overruled.

Rule 28

The Chairperson shall take the sense of the Commission on a motion for closure. If the Commission is in favour of the closure, the Chairperson shall declare the debate closed.

Rule 38

All elections shall be decided by secret ballot, unless, in the absence of any objection, the Commission decides to proceed without taking a ballot on an agreed candidate or slate.

Rule 42

suspended

Rule 43

suspended

Rule 44

suspended

Rule 45

As soon as possible, the text of all reports, resolutions, recommendations and other formal decisions made by the Commission and its Subsidiary Bodies shall be communicated to the members of the Commission, to the consultative members concerned, to all other Members of the United Nations and to the specialized agencies.

(CHAPTER XII)

Subsidiary bodies

Rule 52

Subsidiary Bodies shall adopt their own rules of procedure unless otherwise decided by the Commission.

Rule 53

Subsidiary Bodies should, as in rules 48 and 49, consult non-governmental organizations in category I which, because of their importance as regards their activity and the number of their members in Europe, play a part in the economic life of Europe, on questions within the competence of the Commission and deemed of interest to such organizations. These organizations could in appropriate cases be invited to be represented at meetings of Subsidiary Bodies. 3/

3/ This rule cannot be considered as implying, between the non-governmental organizations in category I any discrimination contrary to the decision and rules of the General Assembly or the Economic and Social Council.

9th meeting
26 April 1993
(see para. 209 above)

N (48) RECOMMENDATION TO ECOSOC TO AMEND THE ECE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Stressing the importance of the political and economic reforms taking place in countries originating from former member countries of the Economic Commission for Europe,

Seeking to ensure the participation of the member States of the United Nations in the activities undertaken by the Regional Commissions of the United Nations,

1. Recommends to the Economic and Social Council that Articles 3, 7, 9 and 10 of the Terms of Reference of the Economic Commission for Europe shall be amended and read as follows:

"Article 3 : cancelled

Article 7 : "The members of the Commission are the European Members of the United Nations, the United States of America, Canada, Switzerland 4/ and Israel 5/. Insofar as the former USSR was a European Member of the United Nations, new members of the United Nations that had been constituent republics located in the Asian part of the former USSR are entitled to be members of the UN/ECE.

Article 9 : cancelled

Article 10 : cancelled";

2. Informs the Economic and Social Council that the UN/ECE will consult other commissions concerned, prior to establishing practical arrangements for extending its activities to new members, which are included in the geographical scope of other regional commissions to avoid duplication. If any matter cannot be settled by consultation, it will be brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council for consideration;

3. Recommends the adoption by the Economic and Social Council at its regular session in 1993 of the attached draft decision.

AMENDMENTS TO THE ECE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Draft decision submitted by the Economic Commission for
Europe for adoption at the regular session of the
Economic and Social Council in 1993

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the recommendation contained in decision N (48) adopted by the Economic Commission for Europe at its forty-eighth session,

1. Approves the amendments of Articles 3, 7, 9, and 10 of the Terms of Reference of the Economic Commission for Europe, as contained in decision N (48) of the Economic Commission for Europe,

2. Decides to modify accordingly the Terms of Reference of the Economic Commission for Europe.

4/ Pursuant to resolution 1600 (LI), Switzerland became a member of the Commission on 24 March 1972.

5/ Pursuant to ECOSOC resolution 1991/72, Israel became a member of the Commission on 26 July 1991, on a temporary basis.

9th meeting
26 April 1993
(see para. 210 above)

ANNEX I

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF ACTIONS AND PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION

(TO BE ABSORBED WITHIN THE EXISTING BUDGETARY PROVISIONS)

nil

ANNEX II

LIST OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION'S SUBSIDIARY BODIES IN 1992/93

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
THE COMMISSION		
Ad hoc Informal Meeting of the Commission	25 June 1992	ECE/AC.20/92(2)/1
	5 October 1992	ECE/AC.20/92(3)/1
Chairman: Mr. W. Rossier (Switzerland)	25 January 1993	ECE/AC.20/93(1)/1
	24 March 1993	ECE/AC.20/93(2)/1
Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution		
Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution	10th session 17-19 November 1992	ECE/EB.AIR/33
Chairman: Mr. J. Thompson (Norway) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. J. Beale (United States) Mr. M. Nowakowski (Poland) Mr. V.G. Sokolovsky (Russian Federation) Mr. P. Woltner (France)		
Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP)	16th session 1-3 September 1992	EB.AIR/GE.1/20
Chairman: Mr. E. Weber (Germany) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mrs. G. Mitosek (Poland) Mr. I. Allegrini (Italy) Mr. R. Gehrig (Switzerland) Mr. N.Z. Heidam (Denmark) Mr. J. Stehlik (Czechoslovakia)		
Working Group on Effects	11th session 18-20 August 1992	EB.AIR/WG.1/18
Chairman: Mr. R.B. Wilson (United Kingdom) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mrs. E. Marchwinska (Poland) Ms. E. Thörnelöf (Sweden) Mr. B. Achermann (Switzerland) Mr. G. Fenech (Canada) Mr. R. Guardans (Spain)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Working Group on Strategies	8th session 24-28 August 1992	EB.AIR/WG.5/16
Chairman: Mr. L. Bjorkbom (Sweden) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. W. Draper (Canada) Mr. M. Faulkner (United Kingdom) Mr. H. Vygen (Germany) Mr. J. Zurek (Poland)	9th session 1-5 March 1993	EB.AIR/WG.5/18
Working Group on Technology	1st session 22-24 June 1992	EB.AIR/WG.6/2
Chairman: Mr. E. Kovacs (Hungary) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. L. Lindau (Sweden)		
ENVIRONMENT		
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems	6th session 16-19 March 1993	ECE/ENVWA/29
Chairman: Mr. K. Bärlund (Finland) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. Yu. Arski (Russian Federation)		
Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics	3rd meeting 19-21 January 1993	ENVWA/WG.2/6 EC.AD/WG.1/6
Chairman: Mr. G. Bager (Hungary) **Vice-Chairman:** Mrs. B. Dubach (Switzerland)		
Meeting of the Signatories to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context	2nd meeting 1-4 December 1992 Rome (Italy)	ENVWA/WG.3/4
Chairman: Ms. W. Petek (Austria) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. C. Braun (United Kingdom)		
Meeting of the Signatories to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents	1st meeting 18-21 May 1992	ENVWA/WG.4/2
Chairman: Mr. J. Zurek (Poland) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. S. Bourtsev (Russian Federation)		
Working Group on Environment for Europe	1st session 28-30 September 1992	ENVWA/WG.5/2
Chairman: Mr. K. Bärlund (Finland)	2nd session 14-15 December 1992	ENVWA/WG.5/4
	3rd session 26-27 January 1993	ENVWA/WG.5/6

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on Water Problems **Chairman:** Mr. W. Kittinger (Austria) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. M. Varela (Spain)	6th session 23-26 November 1992	ENVWA/WP.3/21
TRANSPORT		
Inland Transport Committee **Chairman:** Mr. P. Danjord (Norway) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. D. Valasek (Czech Republic)	55th session 1-5 February 1993	ECE/TRANS/97 and Add.1
Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics **Chairman:** Mr. A. Peltram (Czechoslovakia) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. S. Aciman (Spain)	5th session 28-30 September 1992	TRANS/WP.5/10
Working Party on Transport Statistics **Chairman:** Mr. F. Stulemeijer (Netherlands)	43rd session 23-25 November 1992	TRANS/WP.6/123 CES/AC.62/75
Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs **Chairman:** Mr. M. de Clippel (Belgium) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. J. Fevrier (France)	48th session 19-22 October 1992	TRANS/WP.11/186
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	50th session 18-22 May 1992	TRANS/WP.15/122
Chairman: Mr. E. Berson (France) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. J. Myhre (Norway)	51st session 26-30 October 1992	TRANS/WP.15/124
Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	15-25 September 1992	TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/50
Chairman: Mr. W. Visser (Netherlands) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. F. Lohrmann (Germany)	14-18 March 1993 Berne (Switzerland)	TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/52
Working Party on Combined Transport **Chairman:** Mr. E. Volk (Germany)	16th session 2-3 July 1992	TRANS/WP.24/53
	17th session 7-8 September 1992	TRANS/WP.24/55
	18th session 1-2 April 1993	TRANS/WP.24/57

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport	73rd session 8-10 July 1992	TRANS/WP.30/145
Chairman: Mr. E. Vanderstede (Belgium) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. R. Ehmcke (Germany)	74th session 12-16 October 1992	TRANS/WP.30/147
	75th session 8-12 March 1993	TRANS/WP.30/149
Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention 1975	15th session 15-16 October 1992	TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/31
Chairman: Mr. J. Kroon (Netherlands) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. A. Galaktionov (Russian Federation)		
Principal Working Party on Road Transport	86th session 4-6 November 1992	TRANS/SC1/350
Chairman: Mr. J. Jinks (United Kingdom) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. S. Dobrota (Romania)		
Working Party on Road Traffic Safety **Chairman:** Mr. G. Plomteux (Belgium)	18th (special) session 22-25 June 1992	TRANS/SC1/WP.1/36
	19th session 9-13 November 1992	TRANS/SC1/WP.1/38
Chairman: Mr. J. Jenssen (Norway) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mrs. M.-J. Rambeau (France) Mr. V. Spicka (Czech Republic)	20th session 1-4 March 1993	TRANS/SC1/WP.1/40
Working Party on the Construction of Vehicles	97th session 23-26 June 1992	TRANS/SC1/WP29/353
Chairman: Mr. V. Koutenev (Russian Federation) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. B. Gauvin (France)	98th session 13-16 October 1992	TRANS/SC1/WP29/365
Chairman: Mr. B. Gauvin (France) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. V. Koutenev (Russian Federation)	99th session 9-12 March 1993	TRANS/SC1/WP29/375
Meeting of Experts on Noise **Chairman:** Mr. K.F. Ditsch (Germany)	18th session 27-29 April 1992	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRB/16
Chairman: Mr. H. Hartwig (Germany)	19th session 7-9 September 1992	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRB/17

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Meeting of Experts on Lighting and Light-signalling	28th session 18-20 May 1992	TRANS/SC1/WP29/ GRE/28
Chairman: Mr. G. Meekel (Netherlands)	29th session 9-12 November 1992 Darmstadt (Germany)	TRANS/SC1/WP29/ GRE/29
	30th session 29-31 March 1993	TRANS/SC1/WP29/ GRE/30
Meeting of Experts on Pollution and Energy	24th session 26-28 August 1992	TRANS/SC1/WP29/ GRPE/24
Chairman: Mr. B. Gauvin (France)	25th session 18-20 January 1993	TRANS/SC1/WP29/ GRPE/25
Meeting of Experts on Brakes and Running Gear	31st session 13-15 July 1992	TRANS/SC1/WP29/ GRRF/31
Chairman: Mr. P. Murphy (United Kingdom)		
Chairman: Mr. M. Fendick (United Kingdom)	32nd session 8-11 February 1993	TRANS/SC1/WP29/ GRRF/32
Meeting of Experts on General Safety Provisions	63rd session 5-7 October 1992	TRANS/SC1/WP29/ GRSG/42
Chairman: Mr. A. Perea (Spain)		
Meeting of Experts on Passive Safety	11th session 1-4 June 1992	TRANS/SC1/WP29/ GRSP/11
Chairman: Mr. C. Lomonaco (Italy)	12th session 7-9 December 1992	TRANS/SC1/WP29/ GRSP/12
Principal Working Party on Rail Transport	46th session 26-28 October 1992	TRANS/SC2/178
Chairman: Mr. C. Masikowski (Poland) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. F. Gudin (France)		
Ad hoc Meeting on Facilitation of Border Crossings in International Rail Transport	2-4 September 1992	TRANS/SC2/AC.2/1
Chairman: Mr. A. Iacobaeus (Sweden)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Principal Working Party on Inland Water Transport	36th session 10-12 November 1992	TRANS/SC3/130
Chairman: Mr. I. Valkár (Hungary) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. C. Hofhuizen (Netherlands)		
Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation	4th session 24-26 August 1992	TRANS/SC3/WP.3/8
Chairman: Mr. H. van Doorn (Netherlands) **Vice-Chairman:** Miss C. Vanluchêne (Belgium)		
Chairman: Mr. D. Anissin (Russian Federation)	5th session 5-7 April 1993	TRANS/SC3/WP.3/10
Ad hoc Group of Experts on Inland Waterways Infrastructure	1st session 12-14 January 1993	TRANS/SC3/WP.3/ AC.1/2
Chairman: Mr. R. Leonard (Belgium)		
Seminar on the Impact of Increasing Dimensions of Loading Units on Combined Transport	1-4 September 1992	TRANS/SEM.10/3
Chairman: Mr. W. van Zijst (Netherlands) **Vice-Chairman:** Ms. S.-A. Charuthus (Thailand)		
STATISTICS		
Conference of European Statisticians	40th plenary session	ECE/CES/40
Chairman: Mr. C. Malaguerra (Switzerland) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. I. Fellegi (Canada) Mr. G. Vukovich (Hungary) Mr. M.J. Villares (Portugal) Mr. S. Johansson (Sweden)	15-19 June 1992	
Working Party on Transport Statistics	43rd session 23-25 November 1992	CES/AC.62/75 TRANS/WP.6/123
Chairman: Mr. F. Stulemeijer (Netherlands)		
Working Party on Electronic Data Processing	23rd session 16-19 February 1993	CES/WP.9/315
Chairman: Mr. E. Outrata (Canada) **Vice-Chairman:** Ms. E. Kertesz (Hungary)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Seminar on Integrated Statistical Information Systems and Related Matters (ISIS '92)	18-22 May 1992 Bratislava (Czechoslovakia)	CES/SEM.31/2
Chairman: Mr. S. Condik (Czechoslovakia) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. O. Janhunen (Finland)		
Seminar for Statistical Offices of Mediterranean Countries	13-15 October 1992 Palermo (Italy)	CES/SEM.32/3
Chairman: Mr. P. Garonna (Italy) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. A. Mokaddem (Algeria)		
TRADE FACILITATION and DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE		
Committee on the Development of Trade	41st session 8-10 December 1992	ECE/TRADE/184
Chairman: Mr. W. van Ditmars (Netherlands) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. K. Mitrunen (Finland)		
Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures	36th session 22-25 September 1992	TRADE/WP.4/181
Chairman: Mr. V. David (Czechoslovakia) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. T. Blomfeldt (Finland)		
Chairman: Mr. T. Blomfeldt (Finland) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. E. Hoerig (Germany)	37th session 16-19 March 1993	TRADE/WP.4/183
Meeting of Experts on Data Elements and Automatic Data Interchange	46th session 23-24 September 1992	TRADE/WP.4/ GE.1/89
Chairman: Mr. R. Walker (United Kingdom) **Vice-Chairman:** Mrs. N. Willenz-Gardner (United States)	47th session 17-18 March 1993	TRADE/WP.4/ GE.1/91
Meeting of Experts on Procedures and Documentation	46th session 22 September 1992	TRADE/WP.4/ GE.2/89
Chairman: Mr. E. Goffin (Belgium) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. D. Dima (Romania)	47th session 16 March 1993	TRADE/WP.4/ GE.2/91

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on International Contract Practices in Industry	40th session 29-30 June 1992	TRADE/WP.5/43
Chairman: Mr. D. Stein (United States) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. A. Hubert (Belgium)		
Chairman: Mr. D. Winter (United Kingdom) **Vice-Chairman:** Mrs. Z. Honfi (Hungary)	41st session 30 November - 1 December 1992	TRADE/WP.5/45
ECONOMIC ANALYSIS		
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	28th session 1-5 June 1992	ECE/EC.AD/40
Chairman: Mr. F. Levcik (Austria) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. M. Cosea (Romania) Mr. J.-P. Page (France)		
Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics	3rd meeting 19-21 January 1993	EC.AD/WG.1/6 ENVWA/WG.2/6
Chairman: Mr. G. Bager (Hungary) **Vice-Chairman:** Mrs. B. Dubach (Switzerland)		
ENERGY		
Committee on Energy	2nd session 10-13 November 1992	ECE/ENERGY/21
Chairman: Mr. J. Lambotte (France) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. I. Szergenyi (Hungary)		
Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 2000 Project	3rd session 2-4 March 1993	ENERGY/AC.11/12
Chairman: Mr. B. Devin (France) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. T. Johansson (Sweden)		
Ad hoc Meeting on Energy Efficiency Demonstration Zones	1st meeting 14-16 May 1992 Moscow (Russian (Federation)	ENERGY/AC.11/8
Chairman: Mr. V. Dobrokhotov (Russian Federation) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. S. Bolland (United Kingdom)		
Chairman: Mr. D. Malosti (Italy) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. D. Volfberg (Russian Federation)	2nd meeting 28-30 October 1992 Rome (Italy)	ENERGY/AC.11/10

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Ad hoc Meeting on Global Energy Efficiency 21	2nd meeting 19-20 October 1992	ENERGY/AC.13/4
Chairman: Mr. T.B. Johansson (Sweden) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. B. Devin (France)		
Working Party on Coal	2nd session 2-4 November 1992	ENERGY/WP.1/4
Chairman: Mr. V. Suhov (Russian Federation) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. J. Lambotte (France)		
Ad hoc meeting on the Elaboration of an International Classification of Coals in Seam	10th meeting 16-18 September 1992	ENERGY/WP.1/ AC.1/4
Chairman: Mr. M. Lemos de Sousa (Portugal)		
Meeting of Experts on Research, Management and Transition in the Coal Industry	22nd session 14-16 September 1992	ENERGY/WP.1/ GE.1/3
Chairman: Mr. V. Ilyin (Russian Federation) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. R. Mañana (Spain)		
Meeting of Experts on Coal Trade, Statistics and Transport	2nd session 18-20 May 1992 Sydney (Australia)	ENERGY/WP.1/ GE.2/4
Chairman: Mr. P. Hurley (Australia) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. R. Schnapp (United States)		
Seminar on Opencast Coal Mining and the Environment	12-16 October 1992 Nottingham (United Kingdom)	ENERGY/WP.1/ SEM.2/1
Chairman: Mr. R. Proctor (United Kingdom) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. V. Zhdamirov (Russian Federation)		
Ad hoc Meeting for the Study on Demand and Future Prospects of Natural Gas for Electric Power Generation and its Implications on Future Development of the Natural Gas and Electric Power Industries	23-24 June 1992	ENERGY/WP.2/R.6 ENERGY/WP.3/R.11
Chairman: Mr. W. Vouets (Switzerland) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. C. Forli (Italy)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Meeting of Experts on Electric Power Generation and the Environment	2nd session 6-8 October 1992	ENERGY/WP.2/GE.1/4
Chairman: Mr. J. Rakowski (Poland) **Vice-Chairman:** Ms. S. Tüzüner (Turkey)		
Working Party on Gas	3rd session 25-27 January 1993	ENERGY/WP.3/5
Chairman: Mr. J. Elgström Garcia (Spain)		
Meeting of Experts on Natural Gas Resources	15th session 10-11 June 1992	ENERGY/WP.3/GE.1/4
Chairman: Mr. V. Ermakov (Russian Federation) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. L. Schröder (Germany)		
Meeting of Experts on the Use and Distribution of Gas	23rd session 14-15 September 1992	ENERGY/WP.3/GE.2/4
Chairman: Mr. V. Vershinsky (Russian Federation) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. C. Bernardet (France)		
Meeting of Experts on the Transport and Storage of Gas	23rd session 15-16 September 1992	ENERGY/WP.3/GE.3/4
Chairman: Mr. M. Pierkarski (Poland) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. L. Bökenkamp (Germany)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium on Developments and Prospects of Gas Markets and the Gas Industry in the Years 2000-2010	1 May 1992	-
Chairman: Mr. G. Yardim (Turkey)		

INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY

A. Science and technology

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	20th session 23-25 September 1992	ECE/SC.TECH/44
Chairman: Mr. G. Kint (Belgium) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. M. Kepka (Poland)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
B. Chemicals		
Working Party on the Chemical Industry **Chairman:** Mr. V. Kamenicky (United States) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. B. Botos (Hungary)	2nd session 7-9 October 1992	ECE/CHEM/86
Ad hoc Meeting for the Study on Management of Plastic Wastes **Chairman:** Mr. F.W. Mader (European Centre for Plastics in the Environment)	2nd meeting 12 May 1992	CHEM/AC.24/5
Meeting for the Preparation of the Directory of Chemical Producers and Products **Chairman:** Mr. P. Laroche (France)	3rd meeting 6 October 1992	CHEM/AC.26/6
Preparatory Meeting for the Workshop on Waste Treatment in Industrial Parks **Chairman:** Mr. M. Bagan (Turkey)	14 May 1992	CHEM/AC.27/2
Meeting of Experts to assist in preparing a detailed project proposal for the establishment of the Regional Environmental Management Centre for the Chemical Industry **Chairman:** Mr. U. Pretschker (Germany) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. W. Lubiewa-Wielezynski (Poland)	15-16 April 1993 Warsaw (Poland)	CHEM/AC.28/2
Meeting of Experts on the Periodic Survey of the Chemical Industry **Chairman:** Mr. V. Zlatev (Bulgaria)	18th session 6 October 1992	CHEM/GE.1/30
C. Engineering industries and automation		
Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation **Chairman:** Ms. J. Ory (France) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. V. Petrichenko (Russian Federation)	12th session 24-26 February 1993	ECE/ENG.AUT/51

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Meeting on Questions of Statistics concerning Engineering Industries and Automation	14th meeting 23 October 1992	ENG.AUT/AC.1/24
Chairman: Mr. J. Tuomainen (Finland) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. A. Szabo (Hungary)		
Workshop on Rehabilitation Engineering: REHAB-3	3rd meeting 24-27 May 1992 Trebon-Spa (Czechoslovakia)	ENG.AUT/AC.14/10
Chairman: Mr. V. Komarek (Czechoslovakia) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. R.A. Foulds (United States) Mr. O. Lorentsen (Norway)		
Seminar on New Materials and their Application in Engineering Industries	13-16 October 1992 Kiev (Ukraine)	ENG.AUT/SEM.10/3
Chairman: Mr. V. Trefilov (Ukraine) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. E. Seitz (Germany) Mr. F.H. Froes (United States)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Foundry Production and Ecology	2nd meeting 22 October 1992	ENG.AUT/SEM.11/ AC/4
Chairman: Mr. D.M. Kukui (Belarus)		
D. Standardization		
Working Party on Standardization Policies	2nd session 12-14 May 1992	ECE/STAND/36
Chairman: Mr. S. Warshaw (United States) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. S. Averin (Russian Federation)		
D. Steel		
Working Party on Steel	2nd session 21-23 October 1992	ECE/STEEL/80
Chairman: Mr. J. Borák (Czechoslovakia) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. U. Meiswinkel (Germany)		
Ad hoc Meeting for the Study on Problems Arising from the Use of Iron and Steel Scrap	1st meeting 18 June 1992	STEEL/AC.14/2
Chairman: Mr. P. Gaudron (France)	2nd meeting 29 March 1993	STEEL/AC.14/4

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Ad hoc Meeting for the Study on Recent Developments in the Consumption and Trade in Steel in ECE Member Countries **Chairman:** Mr. V. Riha (Czech Republic)	1st meeting 30 March 1993	STEEL/AC.15/2
Meeting of Experts on the Steel Market **Chairman:** Mr. L. Shevelev (Russian Federation)	31st session 19 June 1992	STEEL/GE.4/11
	32nd session 2 April 1993	STEEL/GE.4/13
Meeting of Experts on Steel Statistics **Chairman:** Mr. N. Edison (United Kingdom) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. A. Toia (Romania)	21st session 16 June 1992	STEEL/GE.5/8
Seminar on the Restructuration and Management Techniques in Steel Industries in Countries in Transition towards Market-Economy Conditions **Chairman:** Mr. W. Sabela (Poland) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. U. Meiswinkel (Germany)	18-22 May 1992 Szczyrk (Poland)	STEEL/SEM.18/3
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Metallurgy and Ecology **Chairman:** Mr. J.Ch. Chevrier (France) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. J. Borák (Czechoslovakia)	1st meeting 17 June 1992	STEEL/SEM.19/AC/2
	2nd meeting 29 March 1993	-

AGRICULTURE AND TIMBER

A. Agriculture

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Committee on Agriculture **Chairman:** Mr. H. Redl (Austria) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. K. Hirsch (Germany)	44th session 8-10 March 1993	ECE/AGRI/122
Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development **Chairman:** Mr. K. Hirsch (Germany) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. M. Dokuzoguz (Turkey)	48th session 18-20 November 1992	AGRI/WP.1/58

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Meeting of Experts on Coordination of Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables	38th session 16-19 November 1992	AGRI/WP.1/GE.1/40
Chairman: Mr. J.P. Blakey (United Kingdom) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. M. Vilchez-Barros (Spain)		
Meeting of Experts on Standardization of Seed Potatoes	26th session 27-29 April 1992	AGRI/WP.1/GE.6/24
Chairman: Mr. B. Borrel (Canada) **Vice-Chairmen:** Ms. M. Charzanowska (Poland) Mr. P. Bianchi (Italy)		
Meeting of Experts on Standardization of Meat (Porcine, Bovine and Poultry)	3rd session 5-8 May 1992	AGRI/WP.1/GE.11/8
Chairman: Mr. C. Barel (Netherlands) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. P. Turkki (Finland)		
FAO/ECE Working Party on the Economics of the Agri-Food Sector and Farm Management	2nd session 15-18 February 1993	FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.5/3
Chairman: Mr. H.R. Oosterveld (Netherlands) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. Cs. Székely (Hungary)		
Symposium on Product Quality in the Agri-food Sector	5-9 October 1992 Murcia (Spain)	AGRI/SEM.30/2
Chairman: Mr. J.A. Rocha Bravo (Spain) **Vice-Chairman:** Mrs. P. Raunemaa (Finland)		
B. Timber		
Timber Committee	50th session 20-23 October 1992	ECE/TIM/63
Chairman: Mr. D. Darr (United States) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. D. Lipman (Russian Federation) Mr. P. Lavarde (France)		
Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training	19th session 29 September - 2 October 1992 Croce di Magara (Italy)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/22
Chairman: Mr. S.-A. Axelsson (Sweden) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. P. Efthymiou (Greece) Mr. V. Korobov (Russian Federation)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Seminar on the Future of the Forestry Workforce **Chairman:** Mr. J. Garland (United States)	4-8 May 1992 Corvallis (United States)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/SEM.36/2
Seminar on the Use of Information Systems in Forest Management **Chairman:** Mr. I. Ekholm (Sweden) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. H. Höfle (Germany)	14-18 September 1992 Garpenberg (Sweden)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/SEM.38/2
Ad hoc Meeting to Prepare a Study on the Outlook for the Non-wood Goods and Services of Forests **Chairman:** Mr. A. Whiteman (United Kingdom)	22-24 February 1993	TIM/EFC/WP.2/AC.3/4
Ad hoc Meeting to Improve the Collection and Dissemination of Forest and Forest Products Statistics **Chairman:** Mr. P. Wardle (FAO)	15-17 February 1993	TIM/EFC/WP.2/AC.4/2
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS		
Committee on Human Settlements **Chairman:** Mr. S. Staynov (Bulgaria) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. J. Tutenuit (France)	53rd session 15-17 September 1992 Lisbon (Portugal)	ECE/HBP/86
Meeting of Experts on Human Settlements Problems in Southern Europe **Chairman:** Mr. F. Rodriguez Garcia (Spain) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. G. Kassapis (Cyprus)	17th session 21-23 October 1992 Seville (Spain)	HBP/GE.2/27
Working Party on Building **Chairman:** Mr. J. Cermak (Czechoslovakia) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. A. Castrillo Canda (Spain)	21st session 3-5 June 1992	HBP/WP.2/34
Seventh Conference on Urban and Regional Research **Chairman:** Mrs. F. Eke (Turkey) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. U. Christiansen (Denmark)	29 June-3 July 1992 Ankara (Turkey)	HBP/SEM.47/2

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Seminar on Building Pathology and Prevention of Disorders **Chairman:** Mr. J. Cermak (Czechoslovakia) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. R. Slama (France)	17-20 November 1992 Prague (Czechoslovakia)	HBP/SEM.48/2
Seminar on Housing Forecasting and Programming at Regional and Local Levels **Chairman:** Mr. B. Coloos (France) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. L. Kieffer (Belgium)	23-27 November 1992 Strasbourg (France)	HBP/SEM.49/2

ANNEX III

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. LIST OF MAJOR ECE STUDIES AND PUBLICATIONS, 1992/1993

NOTE: The language versions issued are indicated by the following abbreviations: E, English; F, French; R, Russian; E/F, bilingual (English/French); E/F/R, trilingual (English/French/Russian); *, published for the United Nations by external publishers, as indicated.

GENERAL

Annual Report of the ECE to the ECOSOC, 18 April 1991 - 15 April 1992, Supplement No. 12 (E/1992/32-E/ECE/1266)	E F R
Economic Survey of Europe in 1991-1992 (Sales No. 92.II.E.1)	E F R
Economic Bulletin for Europe, Vol. 44 (1992) (Sales No. 93.II.E.2)	E F R

Economic Studies No.3

Demographic Causes and Economic Consequences of Population Aging (Sales No. GV.E.92.0.4)	E only

Discussion Papers Vol.2 (1992)

No.1 - Personal and Collective Services: An International Perspective (Sales No. GV.E.92.0.22)	E only
No.2 - The Conditions for Economic Recovery in Central and Eastern Europe (Sales No. GV.E.92.0.24)	E only
No.3 - The Scope for Macroeconomic Policy to Alleviate Unemployment in Western Europe (Sales No. GV.E.92.0.27)	E only
No.4 - Economics and Environment in the Former Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia (Sales No. GV.E.93.0.11)	E only

ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER PROBLEMS

Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, done at Helsinki (Finland) on 17 March 1992 (E/ECE/1267)	E F R
Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents, done at Helsinki (Finland) on 17 March 1992 (E/ECE/1268)	E F R
Methods and Techniques for Prediction of Environmental Impact (ECE/ENVWA/21)	E F R

Code of Practice for the Conservation of Threatened Animals and Plants and Other Species of International Significance (ECE/ENVWA/25) (Sales No. 92.II.E.16) E F R

Protection of Inland Waters against Eutrophication (ECE/ENVWA/26) E F R

Contribution to the Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe", Lucerne (Switzerland), 28-30 April 1993 (ECE/ENVWA/30) E F R

Environmental Series:

No.5 - Application of Environmental Impact Assessment Principles to Policies, Plans and Programmes (ECE/ENVWA/27) (Sales No. 92.II.E.28) E F R

Air Pollution Studies:

No.8 - Impacts of Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/31) (Sales No. 92.II.E.24) E F R

TRANSPORT

European Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) and Protocol of Signature, done at Geneva on 30 September 1957 - Volume I: Agreement, Protocol of signature, Annex A and appendices to Annex A with amendments thereto up to 1 January 1993 - Volume II: Annex B with amendments thereto up to 1 January 1993 (ECE/TRANS/100, Vol. I and II) (Sales No. 92.VIII.1) E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe, 1992, Vol. XLII (Sales No. 92.II.E.4) E/F/R

Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe, 1993, Vol. XXXVIII (Sales No. 92.II.E.8) E/F/R

STATISTICS

Statistical Standards and Studies No. 42: The Environment in Europe and North America - Annotated Statistics 1992 (Sales No. 92.II.E.14) E only

Changing Population Age Structures, 1990-2015: Demographic and Economic Consequences and Implications (Sales No. GV.E.92.0.20) E only

Periodic Bulletins

Statistical Journal, Vol. 9, Nos. 1-3 (International Organizations Services, B.V.) E *

TRADE

Simpler Shipping Marks - Recommendation No. 15, third edition (ECE/TRADE/182)	E F R

AGRICULTURE

Prices of Agricultural Products and Selected Inputs in Europe and North America, 1990/91: Annual ECE/FAO Price Review No. 41 (ECE/AGRI/119) (Sales No. 92.II.E.15)	E F R

Agricultural Review for Europe No.34, 1990 and 1991 (ECE/AGRI/120):

Vol. I:	General Review (Sales No. 92.II.E.22)	E F R
Vol. II:	Agricultural Trade (Sales No. 92.II.E.17)	E F R
Vol. III:	The Grain Market (Sales No. 92.II.E.18)	E F R
Vol. IV:	The Livestock and Meat Market (Sales No. 92.II.E.19)	E F R
Vol. V:	The Milk and Dairy Products Market (Sales No. 92.II.E.20)	E F R

TIMBER

Forest Fire Statistics, 1988-1990 (ECE/TIM/58)	E F R
The Forest Resources of the Temperate Zones - Main Findings of the UN-ECE/FAO 1990 Forest Resource Assessment (ECE/TIM/60) (Sales No. 92.II.E.23)	E F R
The Forest Resources of the Temperate Zones - The UN-ECE/FAO 1990 Forest Resource Assessment (ECE/TIM/62)	
Vol. I: General Forest Resource Information (Sales No. 92.II.E.27)	E F R
Vol. II: Benefits and Functions of the Forest (Sales No. 93.II.E.16)	E F R
Forest and Forest Products - Country Profile: Czech and Slovak Federal Republic (ECE/TIM/64)	E F R
Forest and Forest Products - Country Profile: Romania (ECE/TIM/65)	E F R
Forest and Forest Products - Country Profile: Hungary (ECE/TIM/66)	E F R
Forest and Forest Products - Country Profile: Poland (ECE/TIM/67)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Timber Bulletin, Vol. XLIV

No.2: Special Issue: Survey of the Structure of the Sawmilling Industry	E F R

Timber Bulletin, Vol. XLV

No.1:	Monthly Prices for Forest Products	E/F
No.2:	Forest Products Statistics, 1987-1991	E/F
No.3:	Annual Forest Products Market Review, 1991-1992	E F R
No.4:	Forest Products Trade Flow Data, 1990-1991	E/F
No.5:	Forest Products Markets in 1992 and Prospects for 1993	E/F
No.6:	Forest Products Statistics, 1987 - June 1992	E/F

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics for Europe, 1991, Vol. XXXV (Sales No. 92.II.E.6)	E/F/R

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

A. CHEMICALS

Annual Review of the Chemical Industry, 1990 (ECE/CHEM/84) (Sales No. 92.II.E.21)	E F R
Management of Plastic Wastes in the ECE Region (ECE/CHEM/87) (Sales No. 93.II.E.3)	E F R
Directory of Chemical Producers and Products - First edition, Part 1 of Volume I: Chemical Enterprises in Central and Eastern Europe (ECE/CHEM/88) (Sales No. 93.II.E.7)	E F R

B. ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND AUTOMATION

Annual Review of Engineering Industries and Automation, 1991 (ECE/ENG.AUT/49) (Sales No. 93.II.E.5)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Bulletin of Statistics on World Trade in Engineering Products, 1990 (Sales No. 92.II.E.7)	E/F/R

C. STANDARDIZATION

ECE Standardization List (ECE/STAND/20/Rev.3)	E F R

D. STEEL

Steel Product Quality and Maximum Utilization of Scrap (ECE/STEEL/77) (Sales No. 92.II.E.25)	E F R
The Steel Market in 1991 (ECE/STEEL/78) (Sales No. 92.II.E.26)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe, 1990, Vol. XVIII (Sales No. 91.II.E.13)	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe, 1991, Vol. XIX (Sales No. 93.II.E.6)	E/F/R

ENERGY

Period Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of General Energy Statistics for Europe, 1990, Vol. XXIII (Sales No. 92.II.E.11)	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe, 1992, Vol. XXV (Sales No. 92.II.E.12)	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Electric Energy Statistics for Europe, 1992, Vol. XXXVI (Sales No. 92.II.E.10)	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Gas Statistics for Europe, 1990, Vol. XXXVI (Sales No. 92.II.E.9)	E/F/R

B. LIST OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION AT ITS FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

Provisional agenda	E/ECE/1271 + Add.1
Commission's activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy	/1272
Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Helsinki Document 1992	/1273
The provision of adequate resources for the servicing of the priority sectors of the Economic Commission for Europe	/1274

Cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development	/1275
Cooperation in the field of transport	/1276
Programme of work for 1993-1997	/1277 + Add.1
Cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions	/1278
Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly	/1279
Commission's contribution to the United Nations global programmes and to the Organization's programmes designed to assist developing countries of other regions	/1280
International cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear plant	/1281
Consultations held by the Chairman of the Commission with the Bureaux or the Chairpersons of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission	/1282
Summary Document	/1283

Reports of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems	ECE/ENVWA/29
Inland Transport Committee	ECE/TRANS/97 + Add.1
Conference of European Statisticians	ECE/CES/40
Committee on the Development of Trade	ECE/TRADE/184
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	ECE/EC.AD/40
Committee on Energy	ECE/ENERGY/21
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	ECE/SC.TECH/44
Committee on Agriculture	ECE/AGRI/122
Timber Committee	ECE/TIM/63
Committee on Human Settlements	ECE/HBP/86

Reports of other subsidiary bodies

Working Party on the Chemical Industry	ECE/CHEM/86
Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation	ECE/ENG.AUT/51
Working Party on Standardization Policies	ECE/STAND/36
Working Party on Steel	ECE/STEEL/80

ANNEX IV

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1993-1997

Introduction

The programme of work is divided into the following programme categories:

CATEGORY	SUB-PROGRAMME
00	Policy and coordination of the work of the Commission
01	Environment
02	Transport
03	Statistics
04	Trade facilitation
05	Economic analysis
06	Energy
07	Development of international trade
08	Industry and technology A. Science and technology B. Chemicals * C. Engineering industries and automation * D. Standardization * E. Steel *
09	Agriculture and timber A. Agriculture B. Timber
10	Human settlements

* Activities in these areas are carried out by Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission

SUB-PROGRAMME 00 - POLICY AND COORDINATION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission; relevant resolutions and other decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission.

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.1: ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE AND PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES

00.1.1 Review and guidance of the activities of the Commission as a whole: evaluation, coordination and formulation of the programme of work

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will consider its work as a whole; review and evaluate its own activity as well as that of its subsidiary bodies; guide the policy orientation, coordination and planning of the work carried out by the subsidiary bodies under its auspices; and formulate and approve its programme of work.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: At its annual sessions the Commission considers the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their work and the Executive Secretary's reports on the implementation of its relevant resolutions and decisions. The Commission considers and approves annually its programme of work for the following year and endorses in principle, subject to review at the following session, its long-term programme of work covering the next five years. The policy guidance given by the Commission, including measures for coordination, is embodied in its decisions to be implemented, as appropriate, by member Governments, by the Commission's subsidiary bodies and by its secretariat.

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.2 The work of the Commission as a whole and its future activities

Description: In its decision O (45) the Commission decided on the following priority areas of activity: environment, transport, statistics, trade facilitation, and economic analysis. The Commission also decided on practical measures in these priority areas and on the broad outlines of work in sectors not identified as priorities in order to promote the process of economic reform and integrate the economies in transition into the global economy. The Commission also agreed on a series of measures on the methods of work, the structure and the resources of the Commission.

The Commission requested its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their work the pertinent provisions of the relevant CSCE documents which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the ECE.

It recalled that in accordance with decision O (45) account should be taken of the impact that ECE activities in sectors not identified as priorities, such as energy, have on priority sectors.

Work accomplished: With regard to Commission decision O (45), the priorities as designated were incorporated in the revised Medium-term Plan for 1992-1997 and in the draft budget proposal for the biennium 1994-1995.

With respect to decision A (46), its provisions have been implemented primarily through the redeployment of human and financial resources from programme areas not designated as priorities to the five designated priority areas.

With respect to cooperation with the CSCE, the secretariat has participated in all relevant meetings of the CSCE, including the Helsinki follow-up meeting in March 1992, the Summit meeting in July 1992, and Economic Forum established under the terms of the Helsinki document 1992, in March 1993. It has further participated in an active exchange of documentation on relevant activities of the two bodies in order to avoid duplication of functions (see document E/ECE/1273).

Work to be undertaken: In its decision D (48) the Commission requested its subsidiary bodies to continue to carry out without delay the provisions of decision O (45) when reviewing and implementing their programmes of work. It requested also the Executive Secretary to implement the provisions of that decision where the secretariat is concerned.

The Commission requested its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their work the pertinent provisions of the relevant CSCE documents which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the ECE; and requested the Executive Secretary to report if invited to do so to ensure that all relevant meetings of the CSCE were fully apprised of the relevant activities of the ECE.

The Commission, taking note of the Executive Secretary's note (E/ECE/1279) on the implications of resolutions of the General Assembly and of ECOSOC for the work of the UN/ECE, including Assembly resolution 47/166 on international cooperation and assistance to alleviate the consequences of war in Croatia and to facilitate its recovery, requested the Executive Secretary to bring the work of the Commission to the attention of the Secretary General to assist him in the preparation of the reports which he is required to submit to the Assembly and invited its subsidiary bodies to consider possible work within their competence and ongoing activities which could contribute to the implementation of General Assembly resolutions and to study possible action to contribute to global programmes of the United Nations including forthcoming or recent global Conferences or international years.

It approved its programme of work for 1993-1994 and endorsed in principle, subject to review at its forty-ninth session, its programme of work for 1993-1997.

The provisions of decision D (48) and the other decisions adopted by the Commission at its forty-eighth session will be drawn to the attention of the pertinent subsidiary bodies for appropriate action, and reports on the implementation of these decisions will be prepared for consideration by the Commission at its forty-ninth session.

Duration: One year (1993/1994)

00.1.3 The work of the Commission concerning economies in transition in central and eastern Europe

Description: Taking into account the fact that the recent and current developments in central and eastern Europe modify the characteristics and functioning of the societies and economies of countries of the region, the Commission, in its decisions D (45), B (46) and D (47), considered that in view of its composition and the nature of the cooperation which it implements it had a role to play in assisting the transition to market economies.

In its decision O (45) the Commission noted that work in its five priority sectors contributed significantly to promoting reform and integration or reintegration of the economies in transition with the economies of the ECE region and therefore with the global economy. It decided, in order to promote the process of economic reform, on broad outlines of work in sectors not identified as priorities, and determined that the primary work methods employed to address transition issues should be workshops and other similar informal fora.

Work accomplished: The Commission has continued to organize activities to assist the countries of the region which are in transition to a market economy. In particular the ECE programme of workshops has developed further and over 90 workshops have been held, with approximately the same number on the provisional programme of future workshops. To assist those countries to finance participation in the workshops a trust fund has been set up to receive contributions from member Governments, donor organizations and institutions and the private sector (See document E/ECE/1272). The Principal Subsidiary Bodies reviewed their programmes and methods of work to permit a rapid and effective response to the needs of the economies in transition. These activities were carried out in close collaboration with the international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in particular those identified in decisions D (45), O (45) and B (46). In accordance with decision D (47), the Executive Secretary presented at the Ad Hoc Informal meeting in March 1993 a preliminary report on the workshop programme (see document E/ECE/1272).

Work to be undertaken: The workshop programme will continue according to the parameters stated above. Analytical work on the transition process, including internal and external conditions, will continue to be accorded high priority, in accordance with decision B (46).

In its decision B (48) the Commission:

(a) Invited Governments of the member countries, the European Community, relevant international institutions and private donors to examine inter alia the possibility of providing contributions to the UN/ECE Trust

Fund, to finance workshops, symposia and other similar informal activities on transition issues organized under ECE auspices;

(b) Invited its Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the Executive Secretary to coordinate their activities to provide expertise and assist countries in transition with the Commission of the European Communities and relevant organizations, in particular with OECD, EBRD, UNDP, UNCTAD, the World Bank with a view to avoiding duplication of efforts;

(c) Stressed the importance of continuing efforts which must take account of the prevailing political and economic conditions, on the part of all industrialized countries to improve access for products, including processed goods, in particular from countries in transition to international markets, consistent with bilateral and multilateral agreements, and of the facilitation of private investment, which strengthen the economic potential of countries in transition and reinforce structural reform;

(d) Invited the Executive Secretary to continue to report to Ad Hoc Informal Meetings of the Commission with a view to preparing a thorough evaluation and specific recommendations concerning the organization and methodology of future workshops to be submitted at the latest for the next annual session of the Commission;

(e) Invited the Executive Secretary in the light of General Assembly resolutions 47/171 and 47/187 to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General related work under way in the ECE as a contribution to his reports to the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly on the role of the UN system in addressing the problems facing the economies in transition, including the difficulties encountered in their integration into the world economy as well as on recommendations for action by the UN system in support of privatization in the context of economic growth and sustainable development; and

(f) Requested the Executive Secretary to present proposals on diversification of forms and methods of the ECE activities designed to assist countries in transition taking into account the discussion on the above-mentioned reports at the forty-eighth General Assembly.

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.4 Institutional arrangements for ECE

Description: In accordance with decision P (45), ad hoc informal meetings of the Commission are convened at least once every three months by the Chairperson of the Commission, with, inter alia, the following tasks: (a) to consult on policy matters concerning the activities of the Commission; (b) to assist preparations for the annual sessions of the Commission; (c) to monitor progress in the work programmes of the Commission; (d) to offer any necessary guidance to the Executive Secretary on the work of the Commission.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: Ad hoc informal meetings will be convened by the Chairperson of the Commission in accordance with decision P (45).

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.5 Economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

Description: The Commission and its Principal Subsidiary Bodies pay particular attention to projects and activities of interest to the Mediterranean countries of the ECE region, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the Final Act and other Concluding Documents of the CSCE. The Commission's subsidiary bodies identify areas of interest, particularly in the field of transport and environment, for economic cooperation in the Mediterranean within the framework of over-all ECE activities and the Commission's programme of work. The Executive Secretary cooperates with the secretariats of ESCWA and ECA and other relevant United Nations bodies and pursues contacts with all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries. (See document E/ECE/1273.)

Work to be undertaken: In its decision C (48) the Commission:

(a) Stressed the need for continued efforts by ECE for the protection and amelioration of the Mediterranean ecosystem as referred to in the report of the CSCE Meeting on the Mediterranean held in Palma de Mallorca, in 1990;

(b) Called upon the Executive Secretary to continue to undertake action-oriented studies, including specific analysis of existing economic cooperation between ECE Mediterranean countries, to identify effective means of enhancing economic cooperation in the Mediterranean, both in the priority and non-priority areas of the ECE, taking into account the limits of available resources and the independent nature of that analysis, for consideration by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the Working Parties of the Commission in their programmes of work;

(c) Expressed satisfaction with the activities carried out by the Transport Study Centre for the Eastern Mediterranean in Volos (Greece), the Transport Study Centre for the Western Mediterranean in Barcelona (Spain) and the Transport Training Centre in Istanbul (Turkey) which are of direct interest to the countries of the Mediterranean region and invited these centres to continue to contribute to the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee;

(d) Recalled as a follow-up to Council decision 1991/74, that the ECE and ECA continue their joint work on the evaluation of studies made for the construction of the Europe-Africa permanent link across the Strait of Gibraltar, which is of direct interest to the countries of the Mediterranean;

(e) Welcomed the results and conclusions of the Seminar for the Statistical Offices of the Mediterranean Countries held in Palermo (Italy) in October 1992, which recommended that they assess their experiences with a view to extending cooperation in the Mediterranean area at a seminar to be held not later than 1995;

(f) Took note of the Report of the seventeenth Meeting of Experts on Human Settlements Problems in Southern Europe, held in Seville (Spain) from 21 to 23 October 1992 on "Urban design and architecture with respect to Mediterranean climate and sustainable development", and underlined the need for appropriate follow-up activities in this area;

(g) Requested the Executive Secretary to continue to facilitate consultations regarding the Mediterranean Technical Assistance Programme (METAP) and the Mediterranean Special Programme of Action (MEDSPA) with a view to strengthening further the environmental management and development in the Mediterranean region.

Duration: Continuing

00.1.6 The provision of adequate resources for the servicing of the priority and other sectors of the Economic Commission for Europe

Description: In its decision E (48) the Commission, conscious that the effective and efficient management of the ECE, like that of other UN organizations, depends upon the reliable provision of resources, both financial and human, including skilled professionals, and aware that its increased membership had expanded the ECE's activities and imposed extra demands on its tightly-stretched resources, noted with concern that unfilled vacancies at the professional level in the priority sectors and other sectors are seriously impeding both technical and practical work of importance to the member States, as well as the ability of the secretariat to respond to the growing needs of countries in transition.

Work to be undertaken: In its decision E (48) the Commission:

(a) Reaffirmed the importance attached by member States to urgent action to provide resources necessary to maintain the ECE's efficiency and effectiveness;

(b) Invited the Executive Secretary regularly to provide information on the deployment of resources both under the regular budget and from extra-budgetary contributions to Permanent Missions in Geneva and to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies;

(c) Requested the Executive Secretary to bring this decision to the attention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to report on action taken at the next Ad Hoc Informal Meeting of the Commission.

Duration: One year (1993/94)

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.2: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS, PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS IN THE ECE REGION

00.2.1 Review of economic developments, problems and prospects in the ECE region

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review economic developments, problems and prospects in the ECE region.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: In response to Commission decisions O (45) and B (46), particular emphasis is given to the analysis of the transition economies and related policy issues. This is reflected in the annual Economic Survey of Europe and the Economic Bulletin for Europe, both of which contain an increased coverage of economic and policy developments in the transition economies. Both the Survey and the Bulletin, as well as other special studies and statistical bulletins prepared and published by the secretariat, are made available to the Commission for this annual review. In its decision B (46), the Commission invited the Senior Economic Advisers and the secretariat, in accordance with the relevant provisions of decision O (45) and having in mind the right and responsibility of the secretariat to exercise independent judgement in its analysis, to deepen their consultations in order to achieve the highest quality of the Survey, notably by improving pre-publication exchange of views; and stressed the need for this Survey to be published in time to enable it to be properly studied and reflected upon during the annual session (paragraph 8).

Duration: Continuing

00.2.2 Population

Description: In accordance with the provisions of decision G (40), the Executive Secretary carries out work in the field of population, within existing resources, and maintains collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) for the implementation of the relevant recommendations of regional meetings of experts on population convened periodically, but not more than every two years, in cooperation with UNFPA. These meetings aim to provide consultations amongst Governments and the dissemination and exchange of information on population problems and policies in the ECE region.

Work accomplished: Collaboration with UNFPA is maintained through projects dealing, respectively, with economic and social implications of aging, population and development in southern Europe, integration of population and socio-economic policies, migration, and promotion of fertility and family surveys in the ECE region. Funding for these projects is provided by UNFPA. ECE, in cooperation with the Council of Europe and UNFPA, organized a European Population Conference in Geneva from 23 to 26 March 1993 as a regional contribution to the International Conference on Population and Development in 1994 as mandated by the General Assembly.

Work to be undertaken: Follow-up to the regional conference and input into the World Conference in 1994, in cooperation and collaboration with the other relevant organizations, as well as the continuation of ongoing activities as described.

Duration: Continuing.

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.3: RESOLUTIONS BEARING ON THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

00.3.1 Review and follow-up of resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly bearing on the work of the Commission

Description: At its annual sessions, the Commission will review the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly which have a bearing on its work and will decide on the action to be taken by it in the light of the provisions of those resolutions and decisions.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission undertakes this review on the basis of the Executive Secretary's note (see document E/ECE/1279) in which he brings to the Commission's attention the resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission which were adopted by the Economic and Social Council and by the General Assembly during the period since the previous session of the Commission, and the relevant work underway.

Duration: Continuing.

00.3.2 The ECE's contribution to the preparatory work for the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing 1995

Description: In accordance with decision J (40) the Executive Secretary is called upon to assess developments with respect to the economic role of women in the ECE region in conjunction with other research activities of the secretariat, taking into account the roles and responsibilities of the regional commissions in developing and implementing the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. In accordance with decision H (44) the secretariat was called upon to concentrate on an inventory of the scope and content of time-use questionnaires and of time-use studies, and to make this data available to member countries. By its resolution 1990/12 the Economic and Social Council called for a World Conference on Women in 1995.

Work accomplished: The secretariat has undertaken a time use study of women in the ECE region, with the financial support of INSTRAW. The Conference of European Statisticians convened two meetings in cooperation with INSTRAW to discuss various methodological problems and issues including usage of the time-use surveys, methods of measuring women's contribution to household income, and estimates of women's under-employment. The Conference convened other meetings on improved measurements of women's labour-force participation and statistical indicators required by the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies in countries of the ECE region and will convene the next one in 1995. It is expected that such statistical input on women's issues will continue and will provide substantive input for the 1995 World Conference on Women. The ECE is presently cooperating with INSTRAW on a training and exchange programme involving women farmers in selected central and east European countries. Also in cooperation with INSTRAW, a joint meeting was held in April 1992 on Statistics on Women.

Work to be undertaken: ECE has a joint Working Party with FAO which has launched a project on "Analysis of the socio-economic status of rural women and families in selected European countries" in cooperation with the FAO Working Party on Women and the Agricultural Family. ECE is currently investigating the possibilities of cooperating with UNIDO on a joint typology examination of women's involvement in economic and industrial development for the European region, with the aim of identifying strategies and mechanisms to provide women with access to, and participation in, the industrial services sector and to increase women's integration into upper echelons of economic and industrial management. The work is envisaged as being a regional contribution to the 1995 World Conference on Women.

In its decision K (48) the Commission:

(a) Decided to convene, at a high level, a European regional preparatory meeting for the fourth World Conference on Women by the end of 1994 at the Vienna International Centre;

(b) Invited Governments of the region and relevant international organizations and institutions to contribute actively to the preparation of such a meeting;

(c) Requested the Executive Secretary to invite NGOs in ECE member States having consultative status with ECOSOC and, in consultation with member States, NGOs in ECE member States without consultative status to participate in the European regional preparatory meeting, and to prepare a list of such NGOs eligible to participate in the World Conference, taking into account the formula of the Secretary-General of the Conference to define eligibility for such participation referred to in resolution E/CN.6/1993/L.17, and present this list to the forty-ninth session of the Commission;

(d) Requested the Executive Secretary to seek cooperation and coordination with other regional preparatory initiatives in order to ensure the best possible outcome and avoid duplication of work;

(e) Decided that the agenda for the preparatory meeting shall include inter alia a review and appraisal of the implementation at the regional level of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the year 2000, and an elaboration of regional input to the Platform of Action, emphasizing the role of women in the economy, in particular in countries in transition;

(f) Requested the Executive Secretary to organize the high level regional preparatory meeting, provided that adequate financing, in cash and in kind, is made available, bearing in mind that resources may in part be made available from the United Nations General Assembly to the Commission for its preparations for the fourth World Conference on Women; invited ECE member States to consider contributing adequate funding to this end, and asked the Executive Secretary to report as soon as possible to the Ad Hoc Informal Meeting of the Commission;

(g) Requested the Executive Secretary to submit a report resulting from the preparatory meeting which will serve as the region's contribution to the fourth World Conference on Women, at the fiftieth session of the Commission, preferably including recommendations in the form of a European Plan of Action.

Duration: Continuing.

00.3.3 The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development

Description: The Commission welcomed General Assembly resolution 44/227 on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 on the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond and 42/187 on the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED), as well as General Assembly resolution 44/288 on the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

Work accomplished: The Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems prepared a contribution to the Lucerne Ministerial Conference on Environment for Europe containing elements for a long-term environmental programme for Europe and ensuing proposals for the Ministerial Declaration (see document E/ECE/1275).

Work to be undertaken: The Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics will continue to meet and consider issues related to sustainable economic development namely: environment and economics; assessment of the situation in economies in transition; economic restructuring and the environment; financing environmental policy and use of economic instruments for environmental policies. The Senior Economic Advisers, in coordination with the OECD and the UNCED secretariat, will analyse further the interrelationship between economic activity and the environment, identify major factors affecting sustainable economic development in the ECE and study guidelines to achieve such sustainable economic development in the region, taking into account the particular situation of the countries in transition.

The Executive Secretary will continue to bring to the attention of the Executive Secretaries of the other regional commissions the ECE activities aimed at contributing to sustainable development and strengthening of international cooperation in this field, and in particular the results and follow-up of the 1990 Bergen Conference.

(a) Called upon all its Subsidiary Bodies to promote sustainable development as one of the guiding principles for all their relevant activities and to take fully into account relevant conclusions and recommendations contained in the documents of UNCED, in particular Agenda 21, in their programmes of work, and to elaborate action proposals as appropriate;

(b) Invited the secretariat to prepare, in accordance with the provisions of Assembly resolution 47/191 on institutional arrangements to follow up UNCED, in particular paragraphs 27 and 28 relating to the regional commissions, a report on the work of the ECE to implement Agenda 21, for consideration by the Senior Advisers (or by the Commission at its forty-ninth session), before transmission to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development in 1993, or at the latest in 1994;

(c) Underlined the need to extend, on the basis of an evaluation of three pilot reviews, the system of environmental performance reviews developed by OECD to other ECE countries; and endorsed the proposal of the Senior Advisers that their role in that respect be considered in detail, with the assistance of the secretariat and in the light of the outcome of the Lucerne Ministerial Conference, at the consultations of heads of delegation to be convened in autumn 1993;

(d) Accepted the invitation contained in UNCED Agenda 21 to study the feasibility of organizing a regional conference on transport and the environment and requested the Executive Secretary to carry out such a study in cooperation with member States, the European Community and interested organizations, making full use of the expertise and taking into account the views of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned, especially the Inland Transport Committee, the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems and the Committee on Energy, and to report the results of the study to the Commission well in advance of the forty-ninth session in order to prepare its further decisions on the matter;

(e) Requested the secretariat to lend all due support in the elaboration of the proposals mentioned above and stressed that, with a view to the Commission's limited resources, no new institutions shall be created to this end;

(f) Requested the Executive Secretary to assure that, through the effective and efficient use of available staff and financial resources, the secretariat shall be able to concentrate on the priorities set by the Commission, and urged the Secretary-General of the United Nations to consider granting an exception to the recruitment freeze including the reprogramming of personnel and/or resources to priority areas within the ECE, so that the necessary secretariat resources be provided to the ECE in the field of environment and sustainable development.

Other provisions of decision F (48) were addressed to the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems (programme category 01).

Duration: Five years (1988-1995).

00.3.4 International cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant

Description: In its decision C (46), the Commission recalled Assembly resolution 45/190 and Council resolution 1990/50, and expressed profound concern about ongoing effects on people's lives and health of the disaster at Chernobyl, which had serious national and international consequences. It noted the work being done by the Committees on Timber, Agriculture, and Human Settlements, the Conference of European Statisticians, and the Working Parties on the Chemical Industry and on Engineering Industries and Automation, in exploring the possibilities to elaborate within their competence projects on problems arising from the Chernobyl accident.

Work accomplished: A number of ECE subsidiary bodies have continued to review proposals for activities to address and mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster.

Work to be undertaken: The Commission requested these subsidiary bodies to continue their efforts in this direction, and invited other subsidiary bodies to examine the possibility of making a contribution to this end. The Executive Secretary was requested to support the efforts of the subsidiary bodies in implementation of Assembly resolution 45/190.

In its decision J (48) the Commission:

(a) Called upon the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, which due to their respective spheres of competence could contribute to activities of the Commission related to assistance to the countries affected by the Chernobyl accident, to consider their possible participation taking into account the activities of other international organizations, WHO and IAEA in particular, to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

(b) Requested the Executive Secretary to study the possibility of providing in cooperation with other international organizations and programmes expertise on projects aimed at minimizing the consequences of the Chernobyl accident;

(c) Requested the Executive Secretary to contribute to the preparation by the Secretary-General of the analytical review of the United Nations activities to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, mentioned in paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 47/165.

Duration: Continuing

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.4: COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

00.4.1 Review of the Commission's cooperation with other United Nations bodies

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review its activities in support of and its contribution to other United Nations programmes, especially those of UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP and UNFPA, as well as of the other regional commissions. It will also consider matters relating to its cooperation with other United Nations bodies including the specialized agencies such as FAO, ILO, UNESCO, UNIDO and WHO, as well as IAEA. Special attention will be paid to problems of the member countries of the ECE which are developing from the economic point of view as part of the Commission's contribution to the global programmes and objectives of the United Nations aiming at economic development.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission carries out this review annually on the basis of the Executive Secretary's report on the participation of such organizations and programmes in the Commission's work; on the Commission's own contribution to the programmes of these organizations; and on the secretariat's cooperation with the secretariats of these organizations, including the secretariats of the other regional commissions.

Duration: Continuing.

00.4.2 Review of the Commission's cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review its activities related to cooperation and coordination of its activities with other international economic organizations and institutions, and with international non-governmental organizations participating in the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, with particular regard to those organizations and institutions mentioned in decision O (45).

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission undertakes this review annually on the basis of the Executive Secretary's report on the relevant activities arising out of the participation of such organizations and their secretariats in, and the contribution they make to, the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies (see document E/ECE/1278).

Duration: Continuing.

SUB-PROGRAMME 01 - ENVIRONMENT

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems, approved by the Senior Advisers at their sixth session (ECE/ENVWA/29, paras. 59-65 and Annex III).

Programme activity 01.1: Policy issues

Programme elements

01.1.1 Environment and economics (A)
01.1.2 National environmental performance reviews (B)
01.1.3 Improvement of environmental management in countries with economies in transition (A)
01.1.4 Bilateral and multilateral financial cooperation of relevance to environmental protection (B)
01.1.5 Responsibility and liability (C)
01.1.6 Environmental rights and obligations (B)

Programme activity 01.2: Environmental impact assessment

Programme elements

01.2.1 Interim implementation of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (A)

Programme activity 01.3: Environmentally sound technology and products

Programme elements

01.3.1 Regional Strategy for Integrated Waste Management (B)
01.3.2 Low-waste technology and environmentally sound products (B)
01.3.3 Environmental product profiles (B)
01.3.4 Application of low-waste technology (C)
01.3.5 Management of hazardous chemicals (A)

Programme activity 01.4: Water management

Programme elements

01.4.1 Interim implementation of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (A)
01.4.2 Guidelines on sustainable water management (B)

Programme activity 01.5: Industrial accidents

Programme elements

01.5.1 Interim implementation of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (A)

SUB-PROGRAMME 02 - TRANSPORT

Authority: Programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee, approved by the Committee at its fifty-fifth session (ECE/TRANS/97, paras.152-157 and Add.1)

Programme activity 02.1: Transport trends and economies

Programme elements

02.1.1 Review of general trends with regard to transport development and transport policy (1)
02.1.2 Analysis of specific transport economic issues (2)
02.1.3 Development of transport in the Mediterranean Region (3)

Programme activity 02.2: Road transport

Programme elements

02.2.1 Road transport infrastructure (1)
02.2.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international road transport and facilitation of its operations (1)
02.2.3 Road transport safety (1)
02.2.4 Construction of vehicles (1)

Programme activity 02.3: Rail transport

Programme elements

02.3.1 Rail transport infrastructure (1)
02.3.2 Linking of the European transport network to that of other regions' railways (3)
02.3.3 Harmonization of requirements concerning international railway transport and facilitation of its operations (1)

Programme activity 02.4: Inland water transport

Programme elements

02.4.1 Inland waterway infrastructure (2)
02.4.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international inland waterway transport and facilitation of its operations, including study of legal provisions (2)
02.4.3 Harmonization and improvement of standards for inland navigation vessels (3)
02.4.4 Inland water transport safety (1)

Programme activity 02.5: Transport of dangerous goods

Programme elements

02.5.1 Regulations on the transport of dangerous goods by road, rail, inland waterways and combined transport (1)

Programme activity 02.6: Environmental protection and energy saving in transport

Programme elements

02.6.1 Impact of transport infrastructure and operations on the environment including pollution and noise (1)
02.6.2 Promotion of economy and efficiency in transport (2)

Programme activity 02.7: Combined transport

Programme elements

02.7.1 Promotion of combined and multimodal transport (1)

02.7.2 Safety requirements for the construction, maintenance and handling of combined transport equipment (2)

Programme activity 02.8: Customs questions affecting transport

Programme elements

02.8.1 Harmonization of requirements concerning several modes of transport and facilitation of their operation (2)

Programme activity 02.9: Transport of perishable foodstuffs

Programme elements

02.9.1 Harmonization of regulations and standards relating to the international transport of perishable foodstuffs and facilitation of its operation (2)

Programme activity 02.10: Transport statistics and information

Programme elements

02.10.1 Methods of collection and definition of statistics on inland transport and road traffic accidents (2)

02.10.2 Harmonization of transport statistics in Europe (3)

02.10.3 Publication of statistical information in the field of transport (3)

Programme activity 02.11: Facilitation of movement and transport of disabled persons

Programme elements

02.11.1 Road, rail and inland waterway transport aspects (3)

Programme activity 02.12: General issues

Programme elements

02.12.1 Periodical circulation of selected transport information (3)

SUB-PROGRAMME 03 - STATISTICS

Authority: Programme of work of the Conference of European Statisticians, approved by the Conference at its fortieth session (ECE/CES/40, paras. 50-52 and Annex I).

Programme activity 03.1: Organization and operation of statistical services

Programme elements

03.1.1 Issues of statistical policy
03.1.2 Adaptation of statistical services to transition and integration processes in Europe
03.1.3 Promotion of the coordination of international statistical work

Programme activity 03.2: Statistical information technology

Programme elements

03.2.1 Use of Electronic Data Processing for statistical purposes
03.2.2 Statistical Computing Programme (SCP)
03.2.3 Design and development of statistical databases
03.2.4 Statistical output for dissemination to information media

Programme activity 03.3: Economic statistics

Programme elements

03.3.1 Development of national accounts
03.3.2 Foreign trade statistics
03.3.3 Indicators of short-term economic and technical change
03.3.4 Manufacturing statistics
03.3.5 Agricultural statistics
03.3.6 Forest and forest industry statistics
03.3.7 Statistics of services
03.3.8 Transport statistics
03.3.9 Statistics of household income
03.3.10 Price and quantity statistics
03.3.11 International comparisons
03.3.12 Business registers in national statistical offices
03.3.13 Methodological issues in the collection, processing, dissemination and analysis of economic statistics

Programme activity 03.4: Social and demographic statistics

Programme elements

03.4.1 Coordination of social and demographic statistics
03.4.2 Methodological issues in the collection, processing, dissemination and analysis of social and demographic statistics
03.4.3 Registers and administrative record for social and demographic statistics
03.4.4 Labour force statistics
03.4.5 Migration statistics
03.4.6 Population and housing censuses
03.4.7 Statistics on women
03.4.8 Human settlements statistics
03.4.9 Demographic projections
03.4.10 Fertility surveys

Programme activity 03.5: Natural resource and environment statistics

Programme elements

03.5.1	Energy statistics
03.5.2	Development of concepts, definitions and classifications in individual areas of environment statistics
03.5.3	Development of an international environmental data service
03.5.4	Methodological problems of environment statistics
03.5.5	Frameworks for environment statistics

Programme activity 03.6: Support for ECE publications, studies and projects

Programme elements

03.6.1	Publication of statistical bulletins
03.6.2	Support for the statistical work of other ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies
03.6.3	Provision of statistical information for ECE studies and projects
03.6.4	Substantive support for statistical activities financially supported by UNDP

SUB-PROGRAMME 04 - TRADE FACILITATION

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on the Development of Trade, approved by the Committee at its forty-first session (ECE/TRADE/184, para. 24 and Annex).

Programme activity 04.1: International trade procedures and automatic data interchange (1)

SUB-PROGRAMME 05 - ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments, approved by the Senior Advisers at their twenty-eighth session (ECE/EC.AD/40, paras. 42-44 and Annex)

Programme activity 05.1: Exchange of information on economic developments

Programme elements

05.1.1 Exchange of information on the development of national economies and on policies and programmes (1)

Programme activity 05.2: Long-term projections and perspectives

Programme elements

05.2.1 Growth conditions in the period 1992-1996 and their long-term implications (3)

05.2.2 Specialized long-term macroeconomic database and further development of the SEM system of macroeconomic models (4)

Programme activity 05.3: Selected structural economic issues

Programme elements

05.3.1 International trade and structural changes - interregional and intraregional trends and policies (2)

05.3.2 Structural changes in employment, labour productivity and working patterns and their impact on economic growth (6)

05.3.3 Sustainable economic development (5)

SUB-PROGRAMME 06 - ENERGY

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Energy, approved by the Committee at its second session (ECE/ENERGY/21, paras. 42-46 and Annex I)

Programme activity 06.1: Energy reforms in central and eastern Europe

Programme elements

- 06.1.1 Market adaptation of energy-intensive industries in central and eastern Europe (1)
- 06.1.2 Transition of coal industry from central planning to market economy
- 06.1.3 The implication of economic reforms in central and eastern Europe on electric power demand, supply and cooperation
- 06.1.4 Economic reforms and restructuring in eastern and central Europe - their implications and significance for gas market and the gas industry in the ECE region

Programme activity 06.2 Rational use of energy, efficiency and conservation

Programme elements

- 06.2.1 Energy Efficiency 2000 (2)
- 06.2.2 Energy efficiency standards (5)
- 06.2.3 Energy conservation developments, policies and prospects in the region (7)
- 06.2.4 Rational use of coal, efficiency and conservation
- 06.2.5 Energy efficiency in electric power
- 06.2.6 Rational use of gas, including conservation and efficiency measures

Programme activity 06.3: Interface between energy and the environment

Programme elements

- 06.3.1 Interface between energy and environment: sustainable development (4)
- 06.3.2 Techniques for the evaluation of alternative instruments in the light of environmentally sustainable development (9)
- 06.3.3 Sustainable coal development
- 06.3.4 Environmental protection related to coal mining and coal utilization
- 06.3.5 Environmental aspects in electric power
- 06.3.6 Sustainable development in electric power
- 06.3.7 Gas industry and the environment, including climate change and sustainable development

Programme activity 06.4: Energy policies and prospects and related statistics and projections

Programme elements

- 06.4.1 National energy programmes, policies and prospects, and related balances, projections and data banks (3)
- 06.4.2 Annual Bulletin of Energy Statistics for Europe (11)
- 06.4.3 Overview of energy activities in ECE (12)

Programme activity 06.5: Energy demand and supply issues for sustainable development

Programme elements

06.5.1	Significant new developments affecting energy demand and supply in the short and medium run (6)
06.5.2	New and renewable sources of energy (NRSE) (8)
06.5.3	Developments in the coal industry
06.5.4	Electric power developments
06.5.5	Developments in the gas industry, including trade and interconnections/extension of gas networks

Programme activity 06.6: Energy trade, trade facilitation and infrastructure

Programme elements

06.6.1	Energy trade in the ECE region in the worldwide context (10)
06.6.2	Market trends and trade facilitation in the coal industry
06.6.3	Interconnection of networks in Europe

SUB-PROGRAMME 07 - DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on the Development of Trade, approved by the Committee at its forty-first session (ECE/TRADE/184, para. 24 and Annex).

07(A) - TRADE PROMOTION

Programme activity 07(A).1: Preparation and revision of Guides relating to international commercial transactions (2)

Programme activity 07(A).2: Organization of seminars and workshops (3)

Programme activity 07(A).3: Information relevant to business operators (6)

07(B) - TRADE ANALYSIS

Programme activity 07(B).1: Discussion themes for Committee's annual sessions (4)

Programme activity 07(B).2: Analysis of recent and prospective trade trends, policies and problems (5)

SUB-PROGRAMME 08 - INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY

08(A) - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology, approved by the Senior Advisers at their twentieth session (ECE/SC.TECH/44, paras. 22-23 and Annex).

Programme activity 08(A).1: Current developments in science and technology policies

Programme elements

08(A).1.1 Review of changes in national policies, priorities and institutions, and international cooperation (1)
08(A).2.2 State policy in economies in transition aimed at promoting innovation (3)

Programme activity 08(A).2: Selected issues in science and technology

Programme elements

08(A).2.1 Inventory of existing safety guidelines in biotechnology (2)

08(B) - CHEMICALS

Authority: Programme of work of the Working Party on the Chemical Industry, approved by the Working Party at its second session (ECE/CHEM/86, paras. 41-43 and Annex I).

Programme activity 08(B).1: Long- and medium-term trends and prospects: chemical industry - sustainable economic and ecological development

08(B).1.1 Market trends and outlook for selected chemical products (11)
08(B).1.2 Sustainable development in the chemical industry (3)
08(B).1.3 Environmental clean-up of selected chemical production sites (5)

Programme activity 08(B).2: Statistics and current developments in the chemical industry, including international trade

Programme elements
08(B).2.1 Annual Review of the Chemical Industry (1)
08(B).2.2 Studies of national developments in the chemical industry (10)
08(B).2.3 Development of internationally comparable statistics, including those for specialized products (8)
08(B).2.4 Publication of the Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products (12)

Programme activity 08(B).3: Economic issues and information on the chemical industry including assistance to countries in transition

Programme element
08(B).3.1 ECE Directory of the Chemical Industry (2)
08(B).3.2 Chemical legislation in the countries of the ECE region (4)

Programme activity 08(B).4: Environmental and resource issues in the chemical industry

Programme elements
08(B).4.1 Management of plastic wastes in the ECE region (6)
08(B).4.2 Waste treatment in industrial parks (7)
08(B).4.3 Complex utilization of raw materials using advanced low- and non-waste process technologies (9)

Programme activity 08(B).5: Advanced chemical processes and products

Programme elements
None

08(C) - ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND AUTOMATION

Authority: Programme of work of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation, approved by the Working Party at its twelfth session (ECE/ENG.AUT/51, para. 44 and Annex I)

Programme activity 08(C).1: Current medium- and long-term trends and prospects in engineering industries and automation

Programme elements

08(C).1.1 Medium- and long-term assessment of engineering industries in national, regional and global economies (3)
08(C).1.2 Current developments and prospects in engineering industries and automation, including appropriate aspects of international cooperation in this sector (2)

Programme activity 08(C).2: The role of engineering industries in environmental protection and resource saving

Programme elements

08(C).2.1 Foundry production and ecology (5)
08(C).2.2 Low-waste processes and automated equipment for the production of precision instruments for engineering industries (8)
08(C).2.3 Workshop to be held in conjunction with the Kuban's Sun-93 electric vehicle rally (7)

Programme activity 08(C).3: Special issues in engineering industries and automation of relevance to economies in transition

Programme elements

08(C).3.1 Adjustment of engineering industries in economies in transition (4)

Programme activity 08(C).4: Selected issues in the engineering industries and in automation

Programme elements

08(C).4.1 Rehabilitation engineering (6)

Programme activity 08(C).5: Statistics in engineering industries and automation

Programme elements

08(C).5.1 Development of internationally comparable statistics (1)

08(D) - STANDARDIZATION

Authority: Programme of work of Working Party on Standardization Policies, approved by Working Party at its second session (ECE/STAND/36, paras. 17-20 and Annex I).

Programme activity 08(D).1: Coordination

Programme elements

08(D).1.1 Identification of problems (7)
08(D).1.2 Regular guidance for programme of work for international standardization through identification of sectors which are of interest to member Governments (8)
08(D).1.3 Preparation and implementation of recommendations (9)

Programme activity 08(D).2: Harmonization

Programme elements

08(D).2.1 Review of developments, prospects and problems at the international, regional and national levels (10)
08(D).2.2 Measures to facilitate the harmonization of principles and practices of standardization and related activities (11)
08(D).2.3 Measures to facilitate the implementation of internationally harmonized standards and technical regulations (12)
08(D).2.4 Approval of definitions of terms used internationally in the fields of standardization and related activities (13)
08(D).2.5 Presentation of ECE recommended standards and harmonized technical regulations (14)
08(D).2.6 Preparation and implementation of recommendations (15)

Programme activity 08(D).3: Conformity assessment

Programme elements

08(D).3.1 Identification of problems (1)
08(D).3.2 Promotion of international certification systems and arrangements (2)
08(D).3.3 Measures to achieve mutual confidence in the technical competence and reliability of national conformity assessment systems (3)
08(D).3.4 Establishment of normative documents relating to testing activities and laboratory accreditation (4)
08(D).3.5 Aspects of metrology relevant to testing activities (5)
08(D).3.6 Identification of sectors which could lend themselves to priority preparation of multilateral or bilateral agreements for the recognition of test results and of recommendations to that effect to interested Governments and bodies (6)

08(E) - STEEL

Authority: Programme of work of the Working Party on Steel, approved by the Working Party at its second session (ECE/STEEL/80, paras. 85-89 and Annex I).

Programme activity 08(E).1: Long-term trends and prospects in the iron and steel industry

Programme elements

08(E).1.1	Long-term prospects in the iron and steel industry (8)

Programme activity 08(E).2: Current developments and medium-term prospects in the iron and steel industry, including international trade

Programme elements

08(E).2.1	Short-term developments and prospects in the steel industry and the steel market (1)
08(E).2.2	Studies of national developments in the iron and steel industry (3)

Programme activity 08(E).3: Economic and technological issues in the iron and steel industry

Programme elements

08(E).3.1	Economic aspects of developments in the quality of steel products (7)
08(E).3.2	Recent developments in the consumption and trade in steel in ECE member countries (6)

Programme activity 08(E).4: Environmental and resource issues in the iron and steel industry

Programme elements

08(E).4.1	Metallurgy and ecology (4)
08(E).4.2	Problems arising from the use of iron and steel scrap (4)

Programme activity 08(E).5: Iron and steel statistics

Programme elements

08(E).5.1	Development of steel statistics (2)
08(E).5.2	Publication of steel statistics (2)
08(E).5.3	Statistics on iron and steel scrap (2)

SUB-PROGRAMME 09 - AGRICULTURE AND TIMBER

09(A) - AGRICULTURE

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Agricultural Problems, approved by the Committee at its forty-fourth session (ECE/AGRI/122, para.27 and Annex II)

Programme activity 09(A).1: Economic analysis of the agri-food sector

Programme elements

09(A).1.1	Review of recent developments and prospects in agriculture and agricultural policies in the European region (5)
09(A).1.2	Review of agricultural markets and trade (6)
09(A).1.3	Activities of the FAO/ECE Working Party on the Economics of the Agri-Food Sector and Farm Management (1)
09(A).1.4	Prices of agricultural products and inputs (9)
09(A).1.5	National agricultural accounts (13)
09(A).1.6	Processing of agricultural products (14)

Programme activity 09(A).2: Agriculture and the environment

Programme elements

09(A).2.1	Economic, legal, technological and regulatory measures for the promotion of environmentally sustainable agriculture and production of healthy food: survey of current measures, recommendations, guidelines, codes; effective implementation and monitoring of compliance; economic and social impact; elaboration of new measures and regulations (2)
09(A).2.2	Integrated environmentally sound agricultural practices (4)
09(A).2.3	Effects of radionuclear contaminations and measures for the elimination of their consequences for agriculture (11)
09(A).2.4	The relation between environmental factors (including pollution by industries and other human activities) and the quantity and quality of agricultural production: economic, regulatory and institutional aspects (8)

Programme activity 09(A).3: Standardization of perishable produce and quality development

Programme elements

09(A).3.1	Activities of the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development (3)

Programme activity 09(A).4: Food and agricultural statistics

Programme element

09(A).4.1	Improvement, development and harmonization of food and agricultural statistics (7)
09(A).4.2	New agricultural statistics in transition countries (10)
09(A).4.3	Handbook for international collections of statistics (12)

SUB-PROGRAMME 09(B) - TIMBER

Authority: Programme of work of the Timber Committee, approved by the Committee at its fiftieth session (ECE/TIM/63, paras. 68-71 and Annex I)

Programme activity 09(B).1: Analysis of developments for forestry and forest products in the long-, medium- and short-term

Programme elements

09(B).1.1	Appraisal of long-term timber trends and prospects (2)
09(B).1.2	Medium-term trends in industry structure and markets in specific forest products sectors (7)
09(B).1.3	Review of short-term forest products market developments and prospects (1)
09(B).1.4	Quantification and evaluation of the environmental and other non-wood benefits of forests (6)
09(B).1.5	Trends, prospects and policies in forestry and forest products in southern Europe (22)

Programme activity 09(B).2: Collection, dissemination and improvement of forest and forest products statistics

Programme elements

09(B).2.1	Collection of forest products statistics and publication of the Timber Bulletin (3)
09(B).2.2	Improvement of the quality of forest and forest products statistics (including their collection and dissemination systems) (12)
09(B).2.3	Forest resource assessment (4)
09(B).2.4	Forest fire statistics (18)
09(B).2.5	Productivity in the forest sector (14)
09(B).2.6	Transfer of economic and statistical methods and experience in the forest and forest products sector (19)

Programme activity 09(B).3: Forest technology, management and training

Programme elements

09(B).3.1	Silvicultural operations and general management aspects (9)
09(B).3.2	Wood harvesting and transport (10)
09(B).3.3	Vocational training, applied ergonomics, occupational safety and health of forest workers (11)

Programme activity 09(B).4: Issues related to a sound and sustainable development of the forest and forest products sector

Programme elements

09(B).4.1	Use of wood for energy (16)
09(B).4.2	Implications of air pollution and other damage to forests for wood supply and markets (21)
09(B).4.3	Public relations in the forestry and forest industries sector (8)
09(B).4.4	Competitivity of sawnwood (20)
09(B).4.5	Development of new products, recycling, markets and applications for forest products (13)
09(B).4.6	Information exchange on occurrences of sudden and severe damage to forests (17)

Programme activity 09(B).5: Assistance to the economies in transition in central and eastern Europe

Programme elements

09(B).5.1 Activities to assist countries in transition to a market economy (5)

Programme activity 09(B).6: Issues accorded special priority by the Commission or the Committee

Programme elements

09(B).6.1 Problems in the forestry and forest industry sector arising from radiation contamination, particularly from the Chernobyl disaster (15)

SUB-PROGRAMME 10 - HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Human Settlements, approved by the Committee at its fifty-third session (ECE/HBP/86, paras. 38-44 and Annex I).

Programme activity 10.1: Basic issues

Programme elements

10.1.2 Human settlements situation and related current trends and policies (3)
10.1.2 Development of human settlements statistics (6)

Programme activity 10.2: Sustainable development of human settlements

Programme elements

10.2.1 Promotion of sustainable human settlements policies (including ecologically sound settlements) (2)
10.2.2 Major trends influencing human settlements development (7)
10.2.3 Human settlements problems in southern Europe (8)

Programme activity 10.3: Process of socio-economic transition

Programme elements

10.3.1 Modernization policies for built-up areas (5)
10.3.2 Management of land, housing and building (4)
10.3.3 Housing forecasting and programming (9)
10.3.4 Practical transition problems (1)

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Printed at United Nations, Geneva
GE.93-22012–July 1993–3,650

United Nations publication

ISSN 0251-0197